

# Quarterly Performance Report

***3rd Quarter  
SFY 2004***

***(January– March)***

**Arkansas Department of Human Services  
Division of Children and Family Services  
Quality Assurance Unit**

**Hornby Zeller Associates, Inc.**

**May 2004**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Quarterly Performance Report (QPR) is distributed to Division of Children and Family Services' (DCFS) managers and to the legislative committees dealing with children and youth. The QPR for the third quarter of State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2004, specifically January – March 2004, consists of three parts:

1. **Performance Indicators**, which provide information on service outcomes, such as:
  - a. *Percentage of Families with a True Allegation of Child Maltreatment Three Months, Six Months and One Year After a Previous True Report*
  - b. *Percentage of Siblings in Placement who Are Placed Together*
  - c. *Percentage of Children Living with Adoptive Families within Twelve Months of the Termination of Parental Rights*
2. **Compliance Index**, which reports on the Division's compliance with requirements set by DCFS with guidance from the Arkansas legislative children and youth committees, such as:
  - a. *Timely Completion of Child Maltreatment Assessments*
  - b. *24- and 72-Hour Initial Health Screenings for Children Entering Foster Care*
  - c. *Foster Home Recruitment*
3. **Description of Population and Services**, which describes the children who were the subjects of maltreatment reports, were served in foster care and were provided adoption services, such as:
  - a. *Types of Allegations in Child Maltreatment Reports*
  - b. *Permanency Goals of Children in Foster Care*
  - c. *Characteristics of Children Placed in Adoptive Homes*

The QPR provides this information on a quarterly basis, showing trends over time. This provides the agency with information on the populations it serves and on pertinent issues so the agency may better target its efforts at improving performance.

## Part I: Performance Indicators

DCFS has established nine performance indicators to measure its progress with regard to its major goals of child safety, permanency and well-being. During the third quarter, DCFS continued its efforts toward meeting these goals. Overall, DCFS maintained its past success in those efforts. Therefore, there were no noteworthy areas to address this quarter.

## Part II: Compliance Index

DCFS has set compliance measures with guidance from the House Committee on Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative and Military Affairs and the Senate Interim Committee on Children and Youth. An index is compiled by reporting the level of compliance with these measures.

There are six noteworthy areas to address this quarter, as shown below.

- Timely Initiation of Child Maltreatment Assessments

The percentage for timely initiations stood at **91 percent**, ten percentage points higher than the previous quarter but still below the goal of 95 percent.

For Priority 2 referrals, all ten areas increased in compliance and the overall compliance increased by nine percentage points. Only three areas had compliance less than 90 percent. For Priority 2 referrals, only two areas had compliance less than 90 percent. In both of these areas, staffing is an issue that is being addressed.

- Timely Completion of Child Maltreatment Assessments

The percentage for timely completions stood at **73 percent**, six percentage points higher than the previous quarter but still below the goal of 90 percent. The percentage for the timely completion of Priority I referrals was 70 percent, while the percentage for Priority II referrals was 73 percent.

For Priority 1 Referrals, five areas increased compliance percentages from the last quarter and five decreased in compliance. For Priority 2 referrals, three areas decreased compliance percentages from the last quarter, six increased in compliance and one area's compliance remained the same.

Although staff vacancy continues to be an issue, caseworkers are making efforts to initiate maltreatment assessments in a timely manner to ensure that each child is safe. However, timely completion of assessments remain significantly below the DCFS target goal.

All areas with staff vacancy issues have plans to address those issues including sharing staff between counties, utilizing supervisors to assist with investigations and filling vacant positions as soon as possible.

- 24- and 72-Hour Initial Health Screenings for Children Entering Foster Care

The percentage for 24-hour initial health screenings stood at **89 percent**, eight percentage points higher than the previous quarter but still below the goal of 95 percent.

The percentage for 72-hour initial health screenings stood at **90 percent**, the same as the previous quarter but below the goal of 95 percent.

DCFS surveyed areas to determine issues with securing timely health screens and the availability of Medicaid providers continues to be a challenge for the division. DCFS will continue to work with the Division of Medical Services and physicians to address issues of timely access.

- Foster Home Recruitment

There were 59 new foster homes recruited during the third quarter, 21 less than the goal of 80. This represented a compliance rate of **74 percent**.

DCFS continues to enhance recruitment efforts as part of the Program Improvement Plan (PIP) that resulted from the Child and Family Service Review. A new Foster Home Needs Assessment tool has been developed and is currently in promulgation. The tool will assist each county to better identify the number and types of homes needed. This will allow DCFS to better utilize the Media Campaign to recruit foster parents which is also part of the PIP.

- Foster Home Re-evaluations

The percentage for foster home re-evaluations stood at **88 percent**, which was higher than the previous quarter (86%) but below the goal of 95 percent.

Areas are reporting that with the assistance of the increased monitoring by the Child Welfare Agency licensing staff, compliance is increasing for completing foster home re-evaluations. Only three areas had a compliance level that was less than 90 percent.

- **Required Visits Made by Worker**

The percentages for required weekly visits that were made during the quarter were **7 percent** in January, **11 percent** in February and **12 percent** in March (compared to 20 percent in October, 11 percent in November and 11 percent in December) and were also below the goal of 85 percent.

Required visits to children in foster care remained unacceptably low. As the QPR narrative explains, this only counts face-to-face visits by the child's worker in the foster home. Other staff, for instance an Independent Living Specialist could visit the child in the home and it would not be counted as compliance. Or the worker could call the child or visit the child at school or in court and it would not count toward compliance.

DCFS acknowledges the importance of worker contact with children in foster care and believes that these visits should often be in the home. However, DCFS believes a change in policy that would recognize that some visits in other locations may also meet good practice objectives would be appropriate. DCFS is in the process of making such a change. Our policy has been drafted and is currently in review.

Staffing issues mentioned previously impact worker's ability to complete visits as required by current policy.

### **Part III: Description of Population and Services**

This section describes the children who were subjects of maltreatment reports, were served in foster care and provided adoption services.

There were no noteworthy areas this quarter, as the different populations of children served this quarter were very similar to previous quarters.

## **PART I: PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

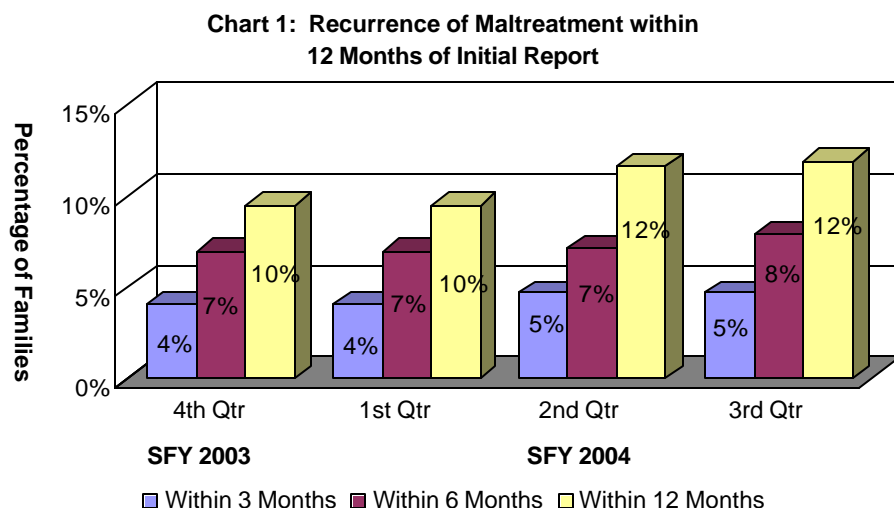
The Division has established nine performance measures to indicate levels of achievement of its major goals of child safety, family preservation and permanency:

- Percentage of families with true allegations of child maltreatment three months, six months and one year after a previous true report;
- Percentage of foster families with true reports of maltreatment;
- Percentage of children receiving Supportive Services, Protective Services or Intensive Family Service (IFS) who were abused or neglected within one year of the initiation of services;
- Percentage of children receiving Supportive Services, Protective Services or Intensive Family Service (IFS) who entered foster care within one year of the initiation of services;
- Percentage of children in foster care who returned home within eighteen months;
- Percentage of children in foster care who have experienced more than three placements within the past eighteen months;
- Percentage of siblings in placement who are placed together;
- Percentage of children living with adoptive families within twelve months of the termination of parental rights; and
- Children placed in a pre-adoptive home whose adoption was finalized within 12 months of entering placement.



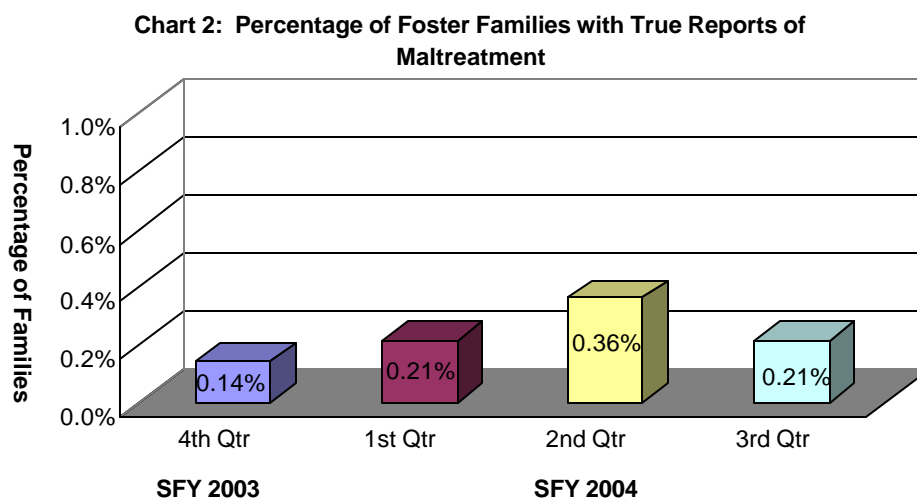
### ***Percentage of Families with a True Allegation of Child Maltreatment Three Months, Six Months and One Year after a Previous True Report***

There were 173 subsequent true reports within 12 months of an initial true report, 54 percent involved both the same perpetrator and the same type of maltreatment as the initial report<sup>1</sup>.



### ***Percentage of Foster Families with True Reports of Maltreatment***

Of the 30 foster home maltreatment reports received during the third quarter, three were found to be true. Based upon 1,429 active foster homes<sup>2</sup> during the quarter, the percentage of foster families with true reports of maltreatment was .21 percent.



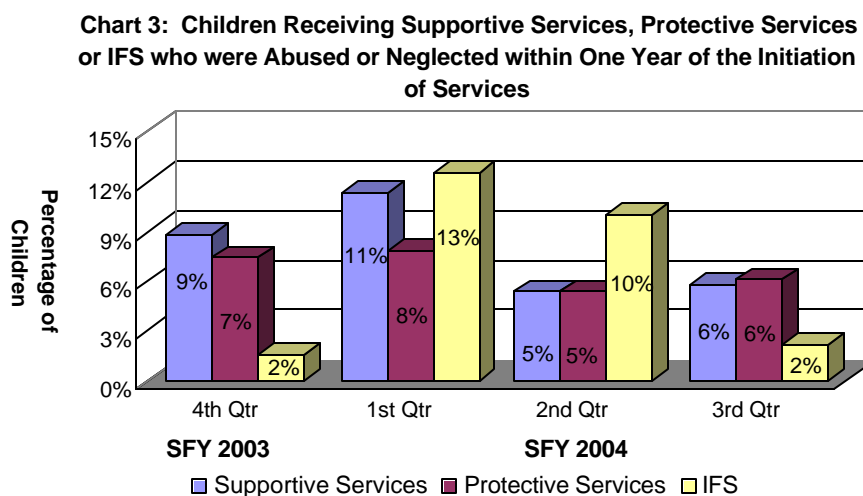
<sup>1</sup> The remaining 46 percent of the subsequent reports were distributed as follows: No repetition of perpetrator or type of abuse – 21 percent; Same perpetrator only – 6 percent; Same type of abuse only – 19 percent.

<sup>2</sup> This includes family and therapeutic foster homes.

***Percentage of Children Receiving Supportive Services, Protective Services or IFS who were Abused or Neglected within One Year of the Initiation of Services***

Generally, families receiving Supportive Services have less severe problems. Families receiving Intensive Family Services (IFS), however, are by definition, in imminent risk of having one or more children placed in foster care or already have children in foster care. Families receiving Protective Services generally fall somewhere in between those extremes.

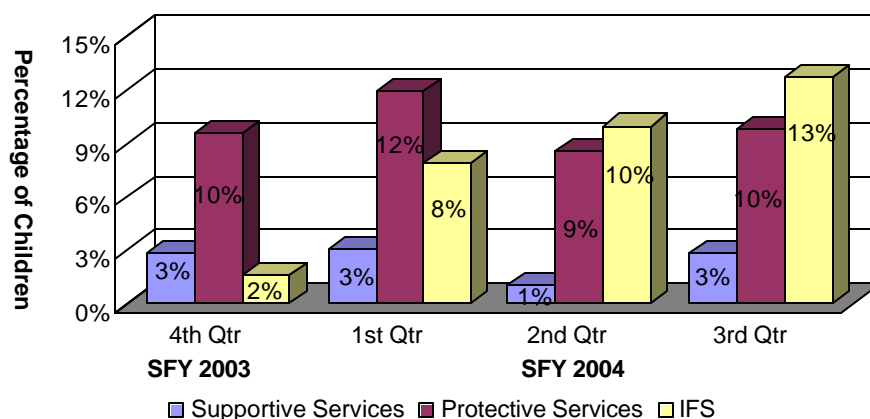
Of the 280 children who began receiving Supportive Services between January and March 2003, 16 (6%) experienced a true report of maltreatment within one year. Of the 3,067 children who began receiving Protective Services, 187 (6%) children were involved in a true report within one year. One child (2%) out of the 47 children who began receiving IFS services during that same time were also involved in a true report within one year.



***Percentage of Children Receiving Supportive Services, Protective Services or IFS who Entered Foster Care within One Year of the Initiation of Services***

There were 8 of the 280 children who began receiving Supportive Services, 301 of the 3,067 children who began receiving Protective Services and 6 of the 47 children who began receiving IFS services between January and March 2003 and entered foster care within the year.

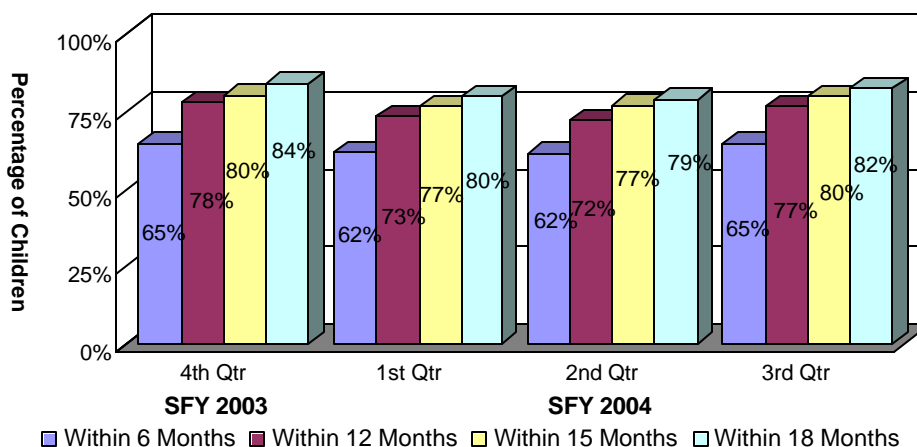
**Chart 4: Children Receiving Supportive Services, Protective Services or IFS who Entered Foster Care within One Year of the Initiation of Services**



***Percentage of Children in Foster Care who Returned Home within Eighteen Months***

There were 949 children who entered foster care during the prior 18 months. Of those, 82 percent or 782 children returned home within 18 months.

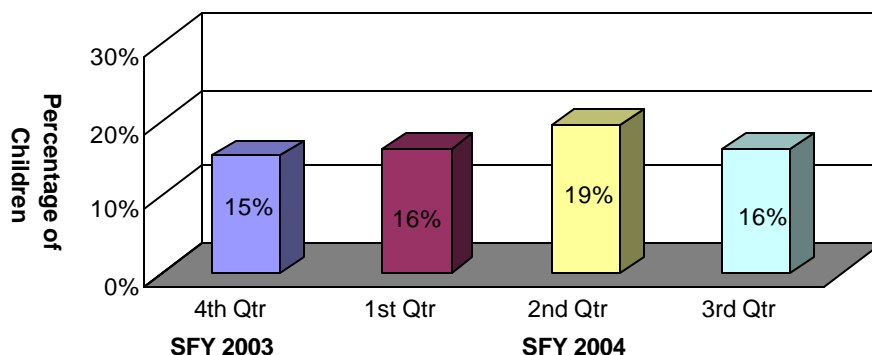
**Chart 5: Children in Foster Care who Returned Home within Eighteen Months**



***Percentage of Children in Foster Care who have Experienced More than Three Placements within the Past Eighteen Months***

Of the 949 children who entered foster care 18 months prior to the current quarter, 154 children (16%) have experienced more than three placements. This represented a three percentage point decrease from the previous quarter. Of those same 949 children, 144 (15%) experienced more than three placements within 15 months of entering foster care. DCFS commissioned a special study on this issue which revealed that children who experience the most placements are older children or children with behavioral problems<sup>3</sup>. The agency is working with the Division of Mental Health Services, the Division of Medical Services and the Council of Community Health Centers on the development of a more adequate system of services for children who experience these problems.

**Chart 6: Children in Foster Care who have Experienced Three or More Placements within the Past Eighteen Months**



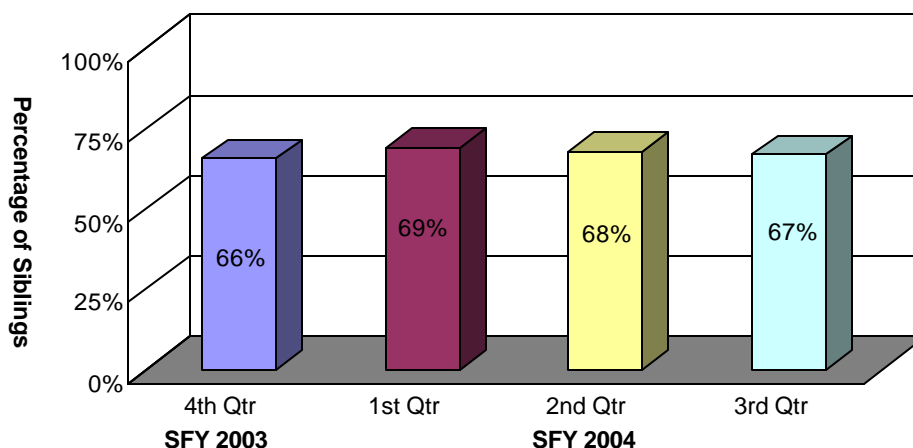
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<sup>3</sup> "Multiple Placements of Children in Foster Care," SFY 2003.

### ***Percentage of Siblings in Placement who are Placed Together***

During the third quarter, there were 2,018 foster children with siblings who were also in care. Sixty-seven percent of those children (1,350 children) were placed with at least one of their siblings; lower than the previous quarter. Of those same 2,018 children, 912 (45%) were placed with all their siblings, which was one percentage point higher than the previous quarter. These figures do not exclude children who have been placed separately for valid reasons such as safety issues or court orders.

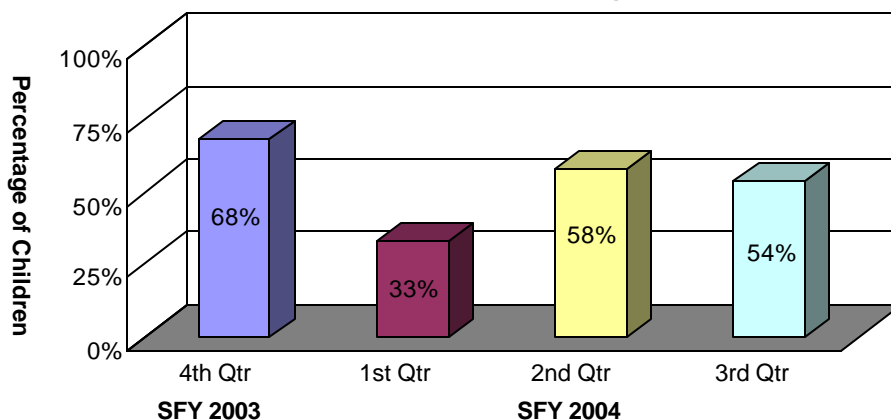
**Chart 7: Siblings in Care who are Placed Together**



### ***Percentage of Children Living with Adoptive Families within Twelve Months of the Termination of Parental Rights***

Of the 114 children whose parents had their parental rights terminated between January and March 2003, 61 children (54%) were placed in an adoptive home within 12 months of the termination of parental rights, which was lower than the previous quarter.

**Chart 8: Children Living with Adoptive Families within Twelve Months of the Termination of Parental Rights**



***Children Placed in a Pre-adoptive Home whose Adoption was Finalized within Twelve Months of Entering Placement***

There were 54 children who were placed in pre-adoptive homes between January and March 2003. Of those, 33 children (61%) had a finalized adoption within 12 months of being placed in the pre-adoptive home.

Of those same 54 children, four children (7%) experienced a disruption. A disruption occurs when a child has been placed in a pre-adoptive home, the family or the child decides not to proceed with the adoption and the child subsequently leaves the pre-adoptive home.

There were 20 children whose adoption was still pending finalization 12 months after their placement in an adoptive home.

**Table 1: Children Placed in a Pre-adoptive Homes whose Adoption was Finalized within Twelve Months of Entering a Placement  
3rd Quarter SFY 2004**

Children Placed in a Pre-adoptive Home	54
Finalized Adoption	33
Disrupted Adoptive Placements	4
Children with a Disruption who were Re-placed in a Pre-adoptive Home	3
Still Pending after Twelve Months	20

## PART II: COMPLIANCE INDEX

The Division has set compliance measures with guidance from the Joint Interim Committee on Children and Youth. An index is compiled by reporting the level of compliance in relation to these measures.

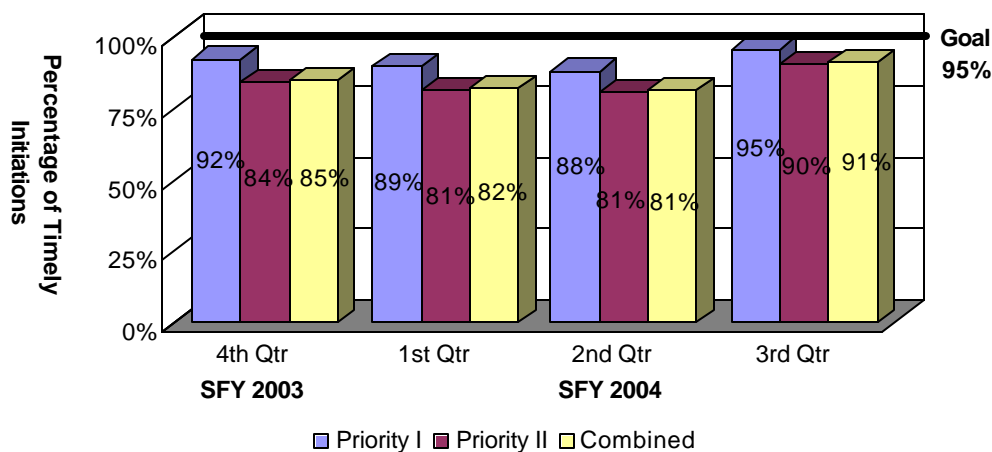
<u>Goal</u>	<u>Compliance Measure</u>
95%	<b><i>Timely Initiation of Child Maltreatment Assessments.</i></b> Timely initiation means the investigator interviews or observes the victim child outside the presence of the alleged offender within 24 hours of any report of alleged severe maltreatment or within 72 hours otherwise.
90%	<b><i>Timely Completion of Child Maltreatment Assessments.</i></b> Timely completion means a determination must be made regarding an allegation of child maltreatment within 30 days of receipt of the allegation.
95%	<b><i>24-Hour Initial Health Screenings.</i></b> This screening is conducted within 24 hours after removal from the home on children who enter foster care due to an allegation of severe maltreatment or if there is evidence of acute illness or injury.
95%	<b><i>72-Hour Initial Health Screenings.</i></b> This screening is conducted within 72 hours after removal from the home on all children who enter foster care who are not subject to the 24-hour screening.
95%	<b><i>Comprehensive Health Assessments.</i></b> The purpose of this assessment is to evaluate the physical and mental health status of all foster children and is to be completed within 60 days of a child entering foster care.
80 Homes	<b><i>Foster Home Recruitment.</i></b> DCFS must ensure that a sufficient number and variety of foster homes meeting minimal standards and matched to the needs and characteristics of foster children are available. The goal is 80 homes for the quarter or 320 homes for the year.
95%	<b><i>Foster Home Re-evaluations.</i></b> DCFS must re-evaluate at least annually each foster home's ability to care for children.
85%	<b><i>Required Visits Made by Worker.</i></b> DCFS must provide data on the percentages of required weekly visits made by DCFS workers to children in foster care.

### ***Timely Initiation of Child Maltreatment Assessments***

Whenever there is an allegation of child maltreatment, the Family Service Worker, the Crimes Against Children Division (CACD) staff member or other local law enforcement must interview or observe the victim child outside the presence of the alleged offender within 72 hours of the report (Priority II), unless there is an allegation of severe maltreatment, in which case the interview or observation must occur within 24 hours of the report (Priority I). There were 5,075 referrals for child maltreatment assessments during the third quarter. Of that number, 241 Priority I referrals and 3,614 Priority II referrals were assigned to DCFS for investigation. Of the DCFS Priority I referrals, 230 (95%) assessments were initiated within the required 24-hour period; of the DCFS Priority II referrals, 3,267 (90%) assessments were initiated within the required 72-hour period<sup>4</sup>. The compliance rate for DCFS Priority I Initiations was 95 percent and 90 percent for Priority II initiation, which resulted in a combined compliance rate of 91 percent, four percentage points below the goal. (See plan of action in the Executive Summary.)

As noted previously, the Crimes Against Children Division (CACD) of the Arkansas State Police is also responsible for handling child abuse assessments. CACD was responsible for 1,220 of the 5,075 referrals that came in during the quarter – 1,163 Priority I referrals and 57 Priority II referrals. Of the Priority I referrals, 1,150 assessments (99%) were initiated timely. Of the Priority II referrals, all assessments were initiated in a timely manner.

**Chart 9: Timely Initiation of Child Maltreatment Assessments**



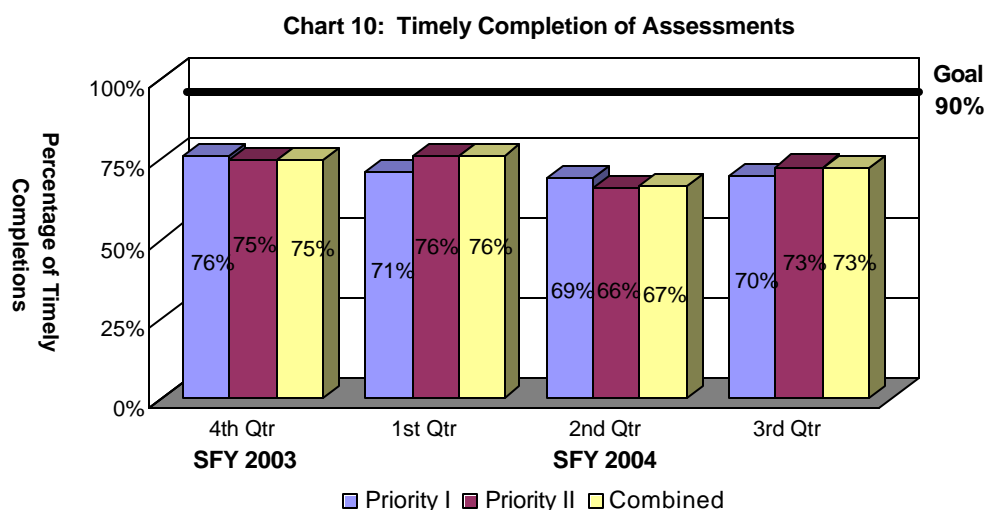
<sup>4</sup> DCFS had 230 Priority I referrals and 3,267 Priority II referrals that were initiated timely. Of those, 44 Priority I (19%) and 762 Priority II referrals (23%) were considered compliant due to reasonable diligence. CACD had 1,150 Priority I referrals and 57 Priority II referrals that were initiated timely. Of those, 131 Priority I (11%) and 9 Priority II (16%) referrals were considered compliant due to reasonable diligence.



### ***Timely Completion of Child Maltreatment Assessments***

Of the 241 DCFS Priority I assessments initiated, 169 (70%) were completed within the required 30-day period. Of the 3,614 DCFS Priority II assessments initiated, 2,628 (73%) were completed within the required 30-day period. Of the 3,855 assessments assigned to DCFS, 2,797 assessments were completed in a timely fashion. This resulted in a compliance rate of 73 percent, higher than the second quarter but below the goal of 90 percent. (See plan of action in the Executive Summary.)

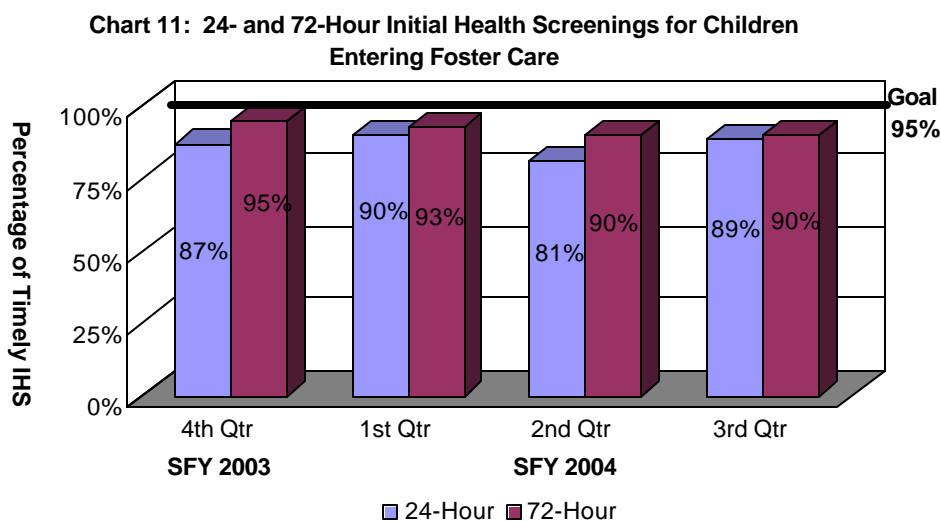
As referenced earlier, the Crimes Against Children Division (CACD) of the Arkansas State Police was responsible for 1,220 of the 5,075 referrals that came in during the quarter – 1,163 Priority I referrals and 57 Priority II referrals. Of the Priority I assessments, 947 (81%) were completed in a timely fashion. Of the Priority II assessments, 49 (86%) were completed in a timely fashion.



### ***24- and 72-Hour Initial Health Screenings for Children Entering Foster Care***

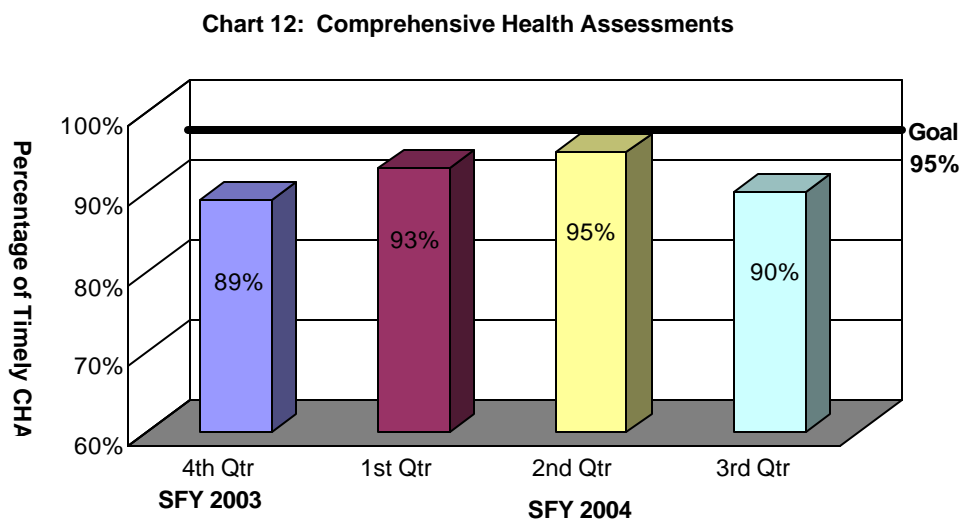
If a child enters foster care due to an allegation of severe maltreatment or if there is evidence of acute illness or injury, an initial health screening must be conducted within 24 hours of the child's removal from the home. Of the 132 children who required the 24-hour health screening during the third quarter, 117 children (89%) received the screening in a timely manner. The compliance rate was higher than the previous quarter but still below the goal of 95 percent.

All children who enter foster care that do not require the initial 24-hour health screening (*i.e.*, there is no allegation of severe maltreatment) must undergo an initial health screening within 72 hours of removal from the home. Of the 730 children who required their health screening within 72 hours, 660 children (90%) received their screenings in a timely manner, which was the same as the previous quarter and did not meet the goal of 95 percent. (See plan of action in the Executive Summary.)



### ***Comprehensive Health Assessments***

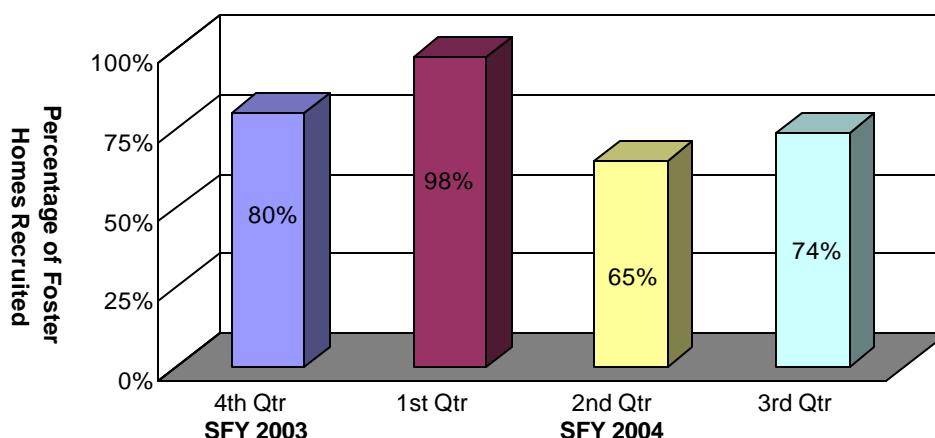
All children who enter foster care must receive a comprehensive health assessment to evaluate their physical and mental health status within 60 days of entering foster care. There were 338 children who entered foster care between November 2, 2003 and January 31, 2004 and who remained in care for at least 60 days. Of those, 303 children received their comprehensive health assessment within 60 days after entering care. The resulting compliance rate was 90 percent, less than the previous quarter failing to meet the goal of 95 percent.



### ***Foster Home Recruitment***

There were 59 new foster homes recruited during the third quarter, lower than the goal of 80 new homes. The compliance rate of 74 percent was higher than the previous quarter (65%). (See plan of action in the Executive Summary.)

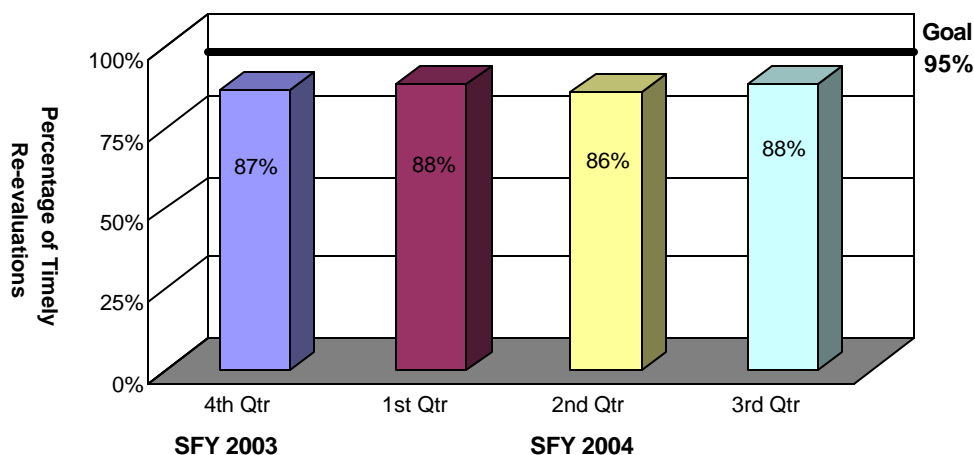
**Chart 13: Foster Home Recruitment**



### ***Foster Home Re-evaluations***

DCFS is required to conduct at least one annual re-evaluation of each foster home's ability to care for children. Of the 973 DHS foster homes that were active at the end of the third quarter, 858 homes had a completed current re-evaluation. The resulting compliance rate was 88 percent, higher than the previous quarter but still below the goal of 95 percent compliance. (See plan of action in the Executive Summary.)

**Chart 14: Foster Home Re-evaluations**



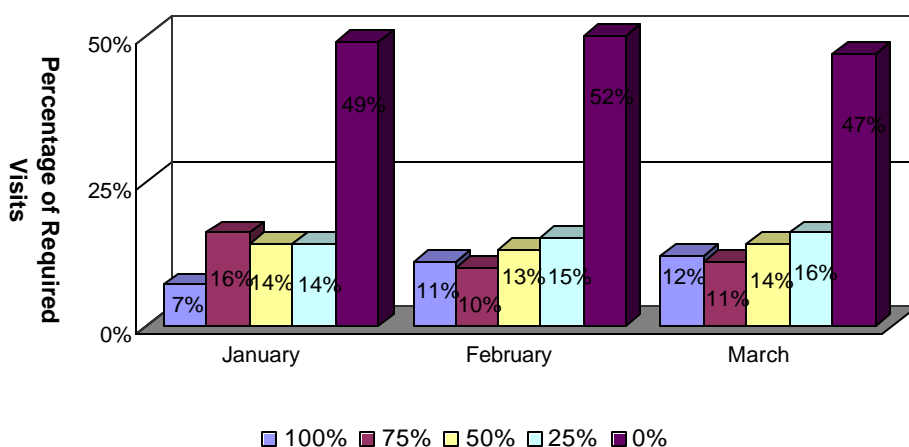
## Required Visits Made by Worker

DCFS policy requires that caseworkers make regular visits to children in foster care. The appropriate frequency is considered to be no less than weekly. Supervisors may approve a deviation from this frequency based on the needs of the child and the circumstances of the child's placement.

The information reported here does not include all visits made to or on behalf of children in foster care. The definition of what is measured here is very narrow. The caseworker must have chosen to document the purpose of the visit from a pick list of several different types of visits purposes. In order to meet the necessary criteria, the visit must have occurred in the home. Visits made with the child at school, during a doctor's visit or while providing transportation would not be counted in this report. Therefore, this section does not purport to completely report the frequency of all visits made with children in foster care, but only those visits that meet the appropriate criteria. Each of the graphs on this and the following page shows the data for each month during the quarter.

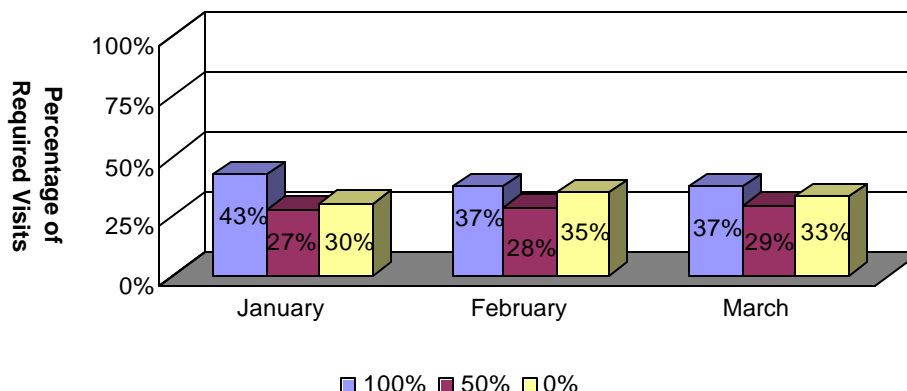
The information reported in the following graph is based on visits made to children for whom weekly visits are necessary. The percentages of children who received all of the required weekly visits increased from seven percent in January to 11 percent in February and further increased to 12 percent in March (compared to 20 percent in October, 11 percent in November and 11 percent in December). (See plan of action in the Executive Summary.)

Chart 15a: Required Foster Care Weekly Visits Made by Worker



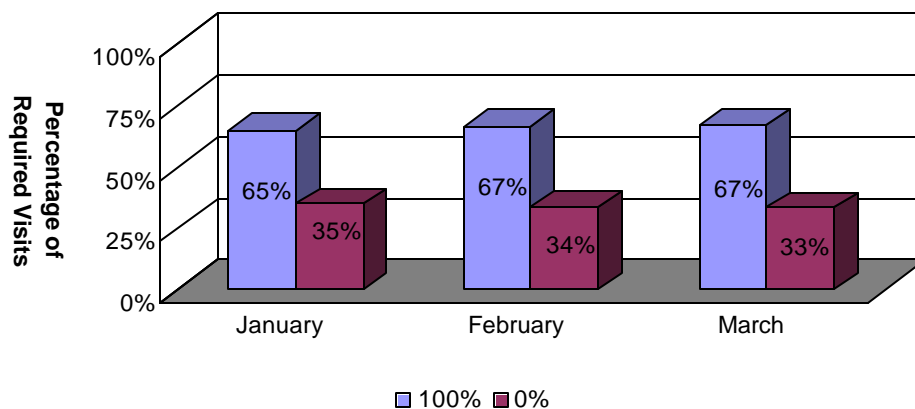
As previously stated, supervisors may approve a deviation from the weekly visit requirement based on the needs of the child and the circumstances of the child's placement. The information reported in the graphs below is based on visits made to children for whom bi-weekly and monthly visits are necessary. As the graph below illustrates, compliance with bi-weekly visitation requirements decreased from January to February and remained the same in March.

**Chart 15b: Required Foster Care Bi-Weekly Visits Made by Worker**



As the following graph illustrates, the percentage of cases meeting monthly visitation requirements increased from 65 percent in January to 67 percent in February and remained at 67 percent in March.

**Chart 15c: Required Foster Care Monthly Visits Made by Worker**



### **PART III: DESCRIPTION OF POPULATION AND SERVICES**

This section describes the number and status of maltreatment assessments, children who were served in foster care and children who were provided adoption services.

Section I outlines characteristics of children such as age, gender and ethnicity, in true maltreatment reports and specifically compares state ethnicity data to that of national data. Additionally, this section describes the types of allegations in maltreatment reports.

Section II describes the foster care population. Specifically, the characteristics of children in foster care, entries and exits of children in foster care, reasons children came into care, lengths of stay for children in foster care as well as children in relative care, placements of children in foster care and the number of placements children experience while in care.

Section III focuses on adoption data such as the characteristics of children available for adoption, current placement of those children, characteristics of children placed in adoptive homes, children whose parents have had parental rights terminated but not placed in an adoptive home, finalized adoptions and adoption subsidies.

## **Part III: Description of Population and Services**

### **Section I: True Child Maltreatment Reports**

#### ***Child Maltreatment Assessments***

There were 5,075 maltreatment assessments assigned during the third quarter. Of those, 1,305 reports (26%) were found to be true, lower than the national percentage (27%)<sup>5</sup>. There were 2,018 victim children involved in the 1,305 true reports during the quarter.

**Table 2: Child Maltreatment Assessments**

	<b>Total Assessments</b>	<b>True Assessments</b>	<b>Percent True</b>
<b>2nd Quarter</b>	5,120	1,329	26%
<b>3rd Quarter</b>	5,075	1,305	26%

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<sup>5</sup> Source: Child Maltreatment 2002, Reports from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau.



### Characteristics of Children in True Maltreatment Reports

There were 2,018 victim children involved in true reports during the third quarter. The table below outlines the demographic information for the victim children during the quarter<sup>6</sup>.

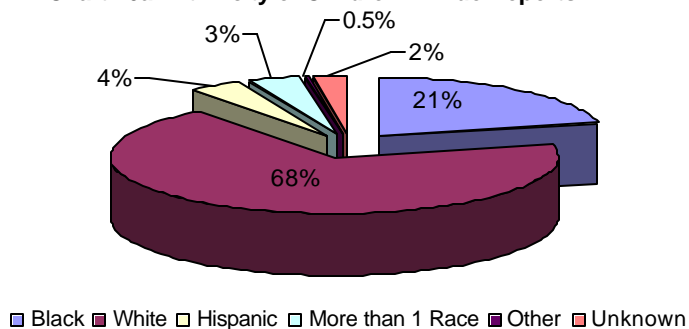
**Table 3: Characteristics of Children in True Maltreatment Reports**  
3rd Quarter SFY 2004

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	43	21	1	0	0	7	6	78
	Male	64	23	0	0	0	5	0	92
2 to 5	Female	162	40	0	0	1	9	3	215
	Male	133	48	0	0	0	11	6	198
6 to 11	Female	262	77	1	0	0	12	11	363
	Male	206	86	2	0	0	17	14	325
12 to 15	Female	246	67	0	0	0	12	15	340
	Male	144	40	1	0	0	3	8	196
16 to 18	Female	76	19	3	1	0	2	2	103
	Male	43	9	0	0	0	3	5	60
<b>Total*</b>		<b>1,379</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>1,970</b>

\*Demographic data had not been entered into CHRIS for 48 children.

Of all the children involved in true maltreatment reports, 68 percent were white and 21 percent were black.

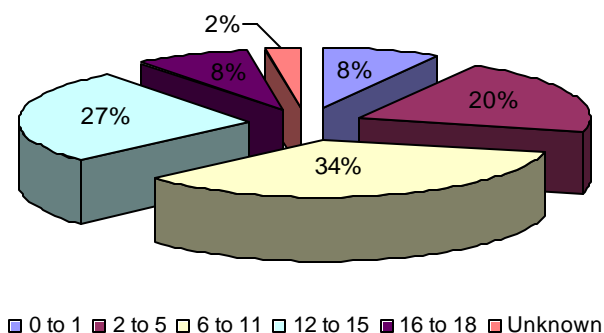
**Chart 16a: Ethnicity of Children in True Reports**



<sup>6</sup> Table three, and each subsequent demographic table, divides up "other" races and ethnicities into the following categories: "Hispanic," "More than One Race," "Asian" (includes Indonesian, Cambodian, Hmong and Vietnamese), "AIAN" (includes Native American, Alaskan Native and American Indian) and "NAPI" (includes Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders).

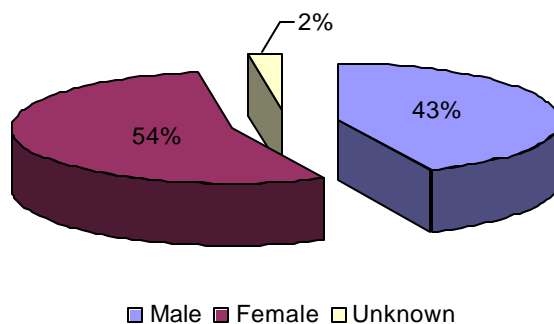
Children between the ages of 6 and 11 represented the largest group of children involved in true maltreatment reports (34%).

**Chart 16b: Ages of Children in True Reports**



There were more female children (54%) involved in true maltreatment reports than male children (43%).

**Chart 16c: Gender of Children in True Reports**



### ***Children Involved in Allegations of True Maltreatment Reports***

The majority of the 2,018 children involved in true maltreatment reports (64%) were involved in neglect allegations during the quarter, followed by sexual abuse allegations (24%) and physical abuse allegations (21%)<sup>7</sup>.

**Table 4: Percentage of Children Involved in True Allegations of Maltreatment  
2nd Quarter SFY 2004 – 3rd Quarter SFY 2004**

	2nd Quarter		3rd Quarter	
<b>Neglect</b>	1,264	63%	1,286	64%
<b>Physical Abuse</b>	484	24%	423	21%
<b>Sexual Abuse</b>	476	24%	479	24%

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<sup>7</sup> The total number of children represented will outnumber the total children involved in true maltreatment reports because a child can be involved in more than one allegation. Therefore, percentages of children involved in maltreatment reports will be greater than 100 percent.

## Part III: Description of Population and Services

### Section II: Foster Care

#### Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

There were 3,954 children in foster care during the third quarter. This includes children who have remained in care from previous quarters as well as children who came into care during the quarter. The following table outlines the characteristics of children who were in care during the quarter.

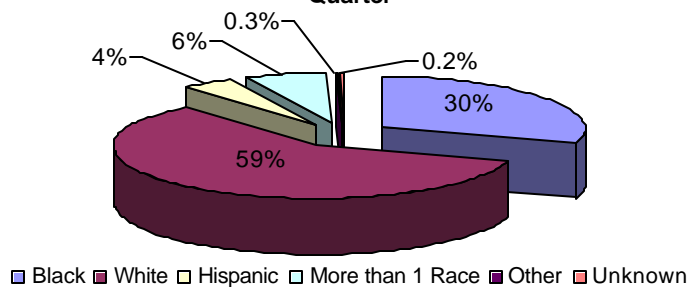
**Table 5: Characteristics of Children in Foster Care during the Quarter**  
3rd Quarter SFY 2004

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	109	61	0	0	0	12	12	194
	Male	151	48	0	0	0	15	15	229
2 to 5	Female	265	114	0	0	0	28	22	429
	Male	261	129	0	0	1	33	28	452
6 to 11	Female	263	127	1	0	0	13	41	445
	Male	319	155	0	0	0	16	37	527
12 to 15	Female	274	135	0	1	0	16	36	462
	Male	265	158	1	0	0	11	28	463
16 to 18	Female	215	105	1	3	0	7	20	351
	Male	145	78	1	0	0	7	13	244
18+	Female	43	33	0	0	0	3	0	79
	Male	35	31	0	1	0	0	3	70
<b>Total*</b>		<b>2,345</b>	<b>1,174</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>3,945</b>

\*Demographic information had not been entered into CHRIS for nine children.

As the chart below shows 59 percent of the children in foster care during the quarter were white, while 30 percent of the children were black. National data reveals that only 37 percent of the children in the national foster care system were white, while 38 percent of the children were black<sup>8</sup>.

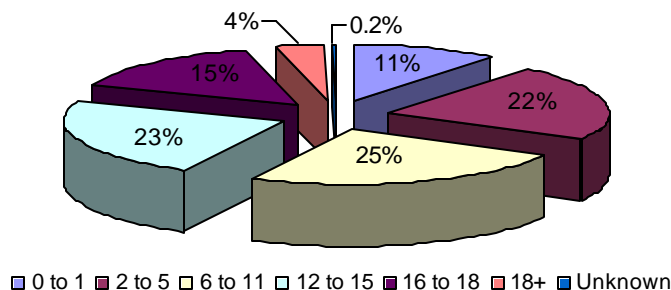
**Chart 17a: Ethnicity of Children in Care during the Quarter**



<sup>8</sup> Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) data submitted for children in foster care between 10/01/2000 and 9/30/2001 as of March 2003.

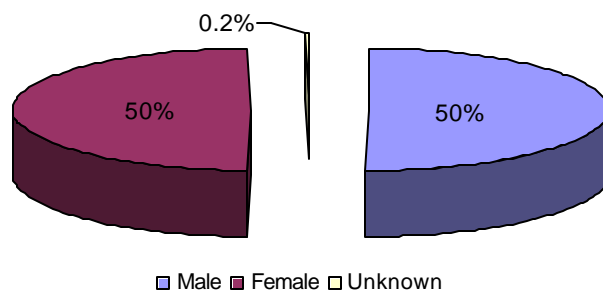
The following chart shows that children between the ages of 6 and 11 represented the largest group of children who were in care during the quarter.

**Chart 17b: Ages of Children in Foster Care during the Quarter**



The following chart shows that 50 percent of the children in foster care during the quarter were female and 50 percent were male.

**Chart 17c: Gender of Children in Foster Care during the Quarter**



There were 3,257 children in foster care at the end of the quarter, an increase from the 3,053 children in care at the end of second quarter. The following table outlines the characteristics of the children in foster care at the end of the third quarter.

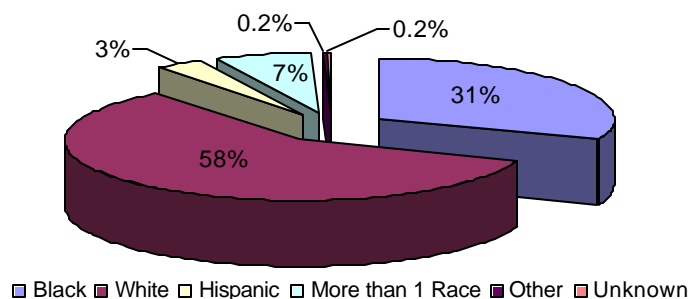
**Table 6: Characteristics of Children in Foster Care at the End of the Quarter  
3rd Quarter SFY 2004**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	His-panic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	77	54	0	0	0	8	9	148
	Male	116	38	0	0	0	8	10	172
2 to 5	Female	213	95	0	0	0	23	19	350
	Male	208	96	0	0	1	21	26	352
6 to 11	Female	211	108	1	0	0	9	36	365
	Male	275	130	0	0	0	12	31	448
12 to 15	Female	226	118	0	1	0	9	32	386
	Male	229	142	0	0	0	9	24	404
16 to 18	Female	194	117	0	3	0	6	19	339
	Male	136	83	1	0	0	5	16	241
18+	Female	11	8	0	0	0	1	0	20
	Male	9	15	0	0	0	0	0	24
<b>Total*</b>		<b>1,905</b>	<b>1,004</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>3,249</b>

\*Demographic information had not been entered into CHRIS for eight children.

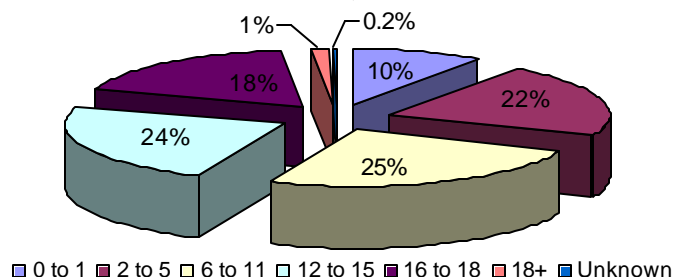
The chart below shows 58 percent of the children in foster care at the end of the quarter were white, while 31 percent of the children were black. These percentages were the same as the previous quarter and similar to the percentages for children who were in care during the quarter.

**Chart 18a: Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care at the End of the Quarter**



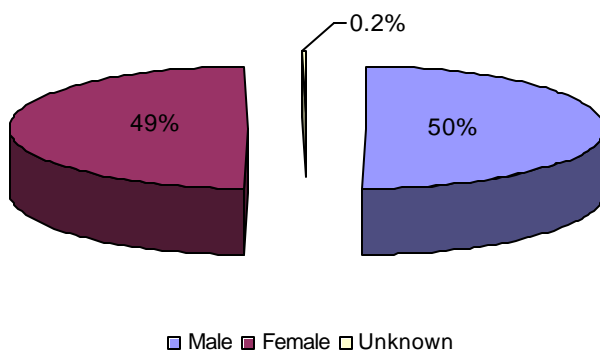
The following chart shows that children between the ages of 6 and 11 represented the largest group of children who were in care at the end of the quarter (25%).

**Chart 18b: Ages of Children in Foster Care at the End of the Quarter**



The following chart shows that the gender of the children in foster care at the end of the quarter was closely distributed and similar to the percentages for children who were in care during the quarter.

**Chart 18c: Gender of Children in Foster Care at the End of the Quarter**



## Entries into Foster Care

The data showed that 939 children entered foster care during the third quarter, an increase from the second quarter (767).

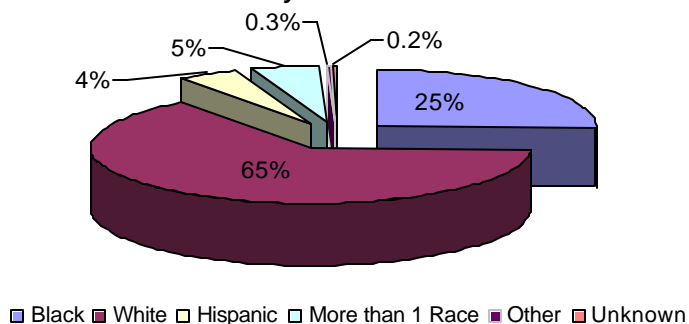
**Table 7: Characteristics of Children Entering Foster Care during the Quarter  
3rd Quarter SFY 2004**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	46	23	0	0	0	4	4	77
	Male	66	19	0	0	0	8	4	97
2 to 5	Female	78	22	0	0	0	3	6	109
	Male	70	31	0	0	0	12	6	119
6 to 11	Female	66	23	1	0	0	4	6	100
	Male	75	38	0	0	0	3	8	124
12 to 15	Female	87	29	0	0	0	4	3	123
	Male	61	31	1	0	0	2	8	103
16 to 18	Female	42	10	1	0	0	1	0	54
	Male	18	11	0	0	0	1	1	31
<b>Total*</b>		<b>609</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>937</b>

\*Demographic data had not been entered into CHRIS for two children.

The chart below shows 65 percent of the children who entered foster care during the quarter were white, while 25 percent of the children were black. National data indicates that 46 percent of the children who entered care were white, 28 percent were black and 16 percent were hispanic<sup>9</sup>.

**Chart 19a: Ethnicity of Children who Entered Care**

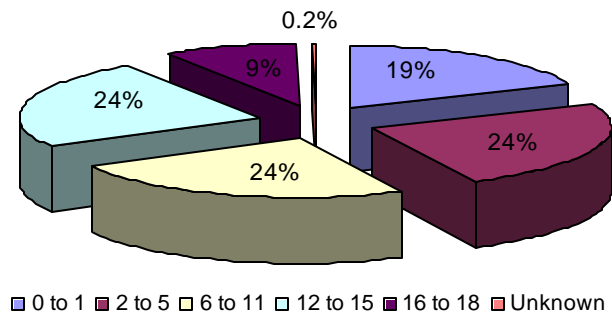


<sup>9</sup> Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) data submitted for children in foster care between 10/01/2000 and 9/30/2001 as of March 2003.



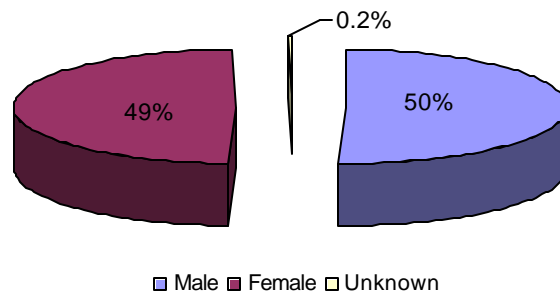
The following chart shows that children between the ages of 2 and 5, 6 and 11 and 12 and 15 each represented 24 percent of the children who entered foster care during the quarter.

**Chart 19b: Ages of Children who Entered Care**



The following chart shows the gender of the children who entered foster care during the third quarter. Of the 939 children who entered care, 50 percent of the children were male and 49 percent were female.

**Chart 19c: Gender of Children who Entered Care**



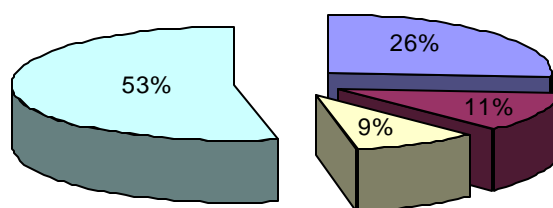
The reasons for entry into foster care for the children, who were in foster care during the quarter (Table 8), were very similar to those found in Table 9. Neglect and substance abuse<sup>10</sup> were the most prevalent reasons children entered care.

**Table 8: Reasons Children in Care during the Quarter were Placed in Foster Care by Age  
3rd Quarter SFY 2004**

	0 to 1	2 to 5	6 to 11	12 to 15	16 to 18	18+	Total
<b>Neglect</b>	349	503	605	354	80	2	<b>1,893</b>
<b>Substance Abuse</b>	129	170	254	211	45	0	<b>809</b>
<b>Parent Incarceration</b>	101	195	198	142	17	0	<b>653</b>
<b>Physical Abuse</b>	133	163	228	159	42	2	<b>727</b>
<b>Child's Behavior</b>	3	17	122	276	84	1	<b>503</b>
<b>Abandonment</b>	49	84	119	106	47	1	<b>406</b>
<b>Inadequate Housing</b>	110	175	229	128	22	0	<b>664</b>
<b>Caretaker Illness</b>	98	90	138	169	43	0	<b>538</b>
<b>Sexual Abuse</b>	17	66	154	146	35	0	<b>418</b>
<b>Truancy</b>	3	14	34	85	39	0	<b>175</b>
<b>Child's Disability</b>	12	10	18	12	4	0	<b>56</b>
<b>Parent Death</b>	0	2	7	12	4	0	<b>25</b>
<b>Sex Offender</b>	7	3	7	29	4	0	<b>50</b>
<b>Relinquishment</b>	8	3	11	22	1	0	<b>45</b>
<b>Adoption</b>	0	0	0	3	0	0	<b>3</b>
<b>Managed Mental Health</b>	0	0	2	11	2	0	<b>15</b>
<b>Other</b>	15	27	49	41	9	1	<b>142</b>
<b>Teen Parent in Care</b>	35	1	1	5	4	0	<b>46</b>
<b>Total*</b>	<b>1,069</b>	<b>1,523</b>	<b>2,176</b>	<b>1,911</b>	<b>482</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7,168</b>

\*There are more reasons for entry than children in care because a child may have more than one reason for entry.

**Chart 20: Reasons Children in Care during the  
Quarter were Placed in Foster Care**



■ Neglect ■ Substance Abuse ■ Inadequate Housing ■ All Other Reasons

<sup>10</sup> Of the 809 reasons for entry attributed to substance abuse, substance abuse by children accounted for 57 reasons for entry (7%), while substance abuse by parents accounted for 752 reasons for entry (93%).

**Table 9: Reasons Children Placed in Foster Care at the End of the Quarter**  
**3rd Quarter SFY 2004**

	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	His-panic	More Than 1 Race	Total
<b>Neglect</b>	<i>Female</i>	437	227	0	1	0	23	59	<b>747</b>
	<i>Male</i>	505	248	0	0	1	32	62	<b>848</b>
<b>Substance Abuse</b>	<i>Female</i>	235	78	0	0	0	3	13	<b>329</b>
	<i>Male</i>	229	80	0	0	0	8	25	<b>342</b>
<b>Parent Incarceration</b>	<i>Female</i>	162	59	0	0	0	11	26	<b>258</b>
	<i>Male</i>	178	62	0	0	0	11	21	<b>272</b>
<b>Physical Abuse</b>	<i>Female</i>	140	112	0	0	0	17	21	<b>290</b>
	<i>Male</i>	161	102	0	0	0	14	19	<b>296</b>
<b>Child's Behavior</b>	<i>Female</i>	130	55	0	3	0	1	10	<b>199</b>
	<i>Male</i>	142	72	1	0	0	7	15	<b>237</b>
<b>Abandonment</b>	<i>Female</i>	75	77	0	0	0	9	12	<b>173</b>
	<i>Male</i>	82	82	0	0	1	6	6	<b>177</b>
<b>Inadequate Housing</b>	<i>Female</i>	157	76	0	1	0	11	29	<b>274</b>
	<i>Male</i>	181	98	0	0	0	10	24	<b>313</b>
<b>Caretaker Illness</b>	<i>Female</i>	136	45	0	2	0	8	8	<b>199</b>
	<i>Male</i>	177	51	0	0	0	8	16	<b>252</b>
<b>Sexual Abuse</b>	<i>Female</i>	172	56	1	1	0	10	21	<b>261</b>
	<i>Male</i>	62	17	0	0	0	6	7	<b>92</b>
<b>Truancy</b>	<i>Female</i>	49	25	0	2	0	1	1	<b>78</b>
	<i>Male</i>	42	20	0	0	0	2	3	<b>67</b>
<b>Child's Disability</b>	<i>Female</i>	13	4	0	0	0	0	1	<b>18</b>
	<i>Male</i>	24	7	0	0	0	0	1	<b>32</b>
<b>Parent Death</b>	<i>Female</i>	6	2	0	0	0	1	1	<b>10</b>
	<i>Male</i>	6	6	0	0	0	0	1	<b>13</b>
<b>Sex Offender</b>	<i>Female</i>	7	1	0	0	0	0	1	<b>9</b>
	<i>Male</i>	23	5	0	0	0	2	2	<b>32</b>
<b>Relinquishment</b>	<i>Female</i>	8	13	0	0	0	0	2	<b>23</b>
	<i>Male</i>	11	4	0	0	0	0	2	<b>17</b>
<b>Managed Mental Health</b>	<i>Female</i>	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	<b>4</b>
	<i>Male</i>	6	5	0	0	0	0	0	<b>11</b>
<b>Adoption</b>	<i>Female</i>	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	<b>3</b>
	<i>Male</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Teen Parent in Care</b>	<i>Female</i>	16	9	0	0	0	1	0	<b>26</b>
	<i>Male</i>	7	3	0	0	0	0	2	<b>12</b>
<b>Other</b>	<i>Female</i>	25	22	0	0	0	0	4	<b>51</b>
	<i>Male</i>	39	34	0	0	0	0	2	<b>75</b>
<b>Total*</b>		<b>3,645</b>	<b>1,761</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>6,040</b>

\*There are more reasons for entry than children in care because a child may have more than one reason for entry.

### Exits from Foster Care

There were 709 children who left foster care during the quarter, which represented a two percent decrease in the number of children who left foster care the previous quarter (723).

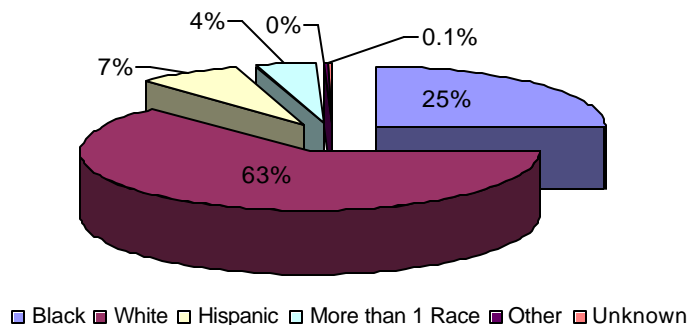
**Table 10: Characteristics of Children Exiting Foster Care during the Quarter  
3rd Quarter SFY 2004**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	32	7	0	0	0	4	3	46
	Male	35	11	0	0	0	7	5	58
2 to 5	Female	53	20	0	0	0	5	3	81
	Male	52	34	0	0	0	12	1	99
6 to 11	Female	53	20	0	0	0	4	5	82
	Male	46	26	0	0	0	4	5	81
12 to 15	Female	51	16	0	0	0	7	3	77
	Male	35	19	1	0	0	2	4	61
16 to 18	Female	52	14	1	0	0	3	1	71
	Male	34	10	0	1	0	2	0	47
18+	Female	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Male	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	4
<b>Total*</b>		<b>445</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>708</b>

\*Demographic data had not been entered into CHRIS for one child.

Of the 709 children who left foster care, 63 percent were white, while 25 percent of the children who left care were black. National data indicates that 45 percent of the children who left foster care were white and 30 percent were black<sup>11</sup>.

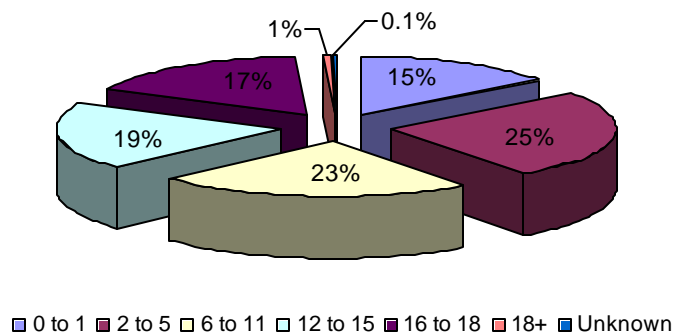
**Chart 21a: Ethnicity of Children who Exited Care**



<sup>11</sup> Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) data submitted for children in foster care between 10/01/2000 and 9/30/2001 as of March 2003.

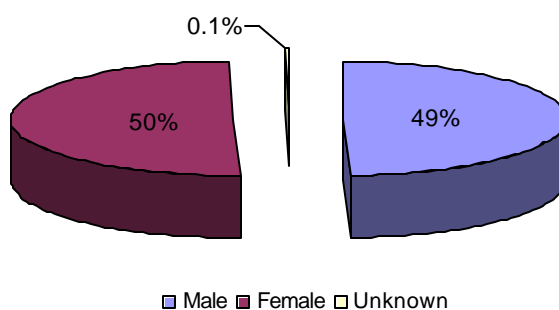
The following chart shows that children between the ages of two and five represented the highest percentage of children (25%) who left foster care during the quarter.

**Chart 21b: Ages of Children who Exited Care**



The gender of the children who left care during the quarter was closely divided. Fifty percent of the children were female and 49 percent of the children were male.

**Chart 21c: Gender of Children who Exited Care**



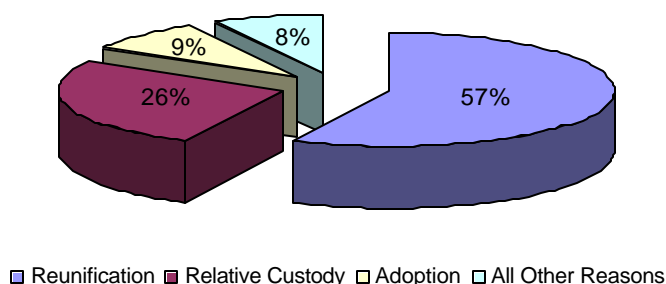
**Table 11: Reasons Children Exited Foster Care by Age  
3rd Quarter SFY 2004**

Reason	Age						Total
	0 to 1	2 to 5	6 to 11	12 to 15	16 to 18	18+	
Reunification	55	108	97	87	58	0	405
Relative Custody	36	46	48	31	24	0	185
Adoption	9	23	14	11	4	0	61
Child Aged Out	0	0	0	0	30	4	34
Non-Relative Custody	3	1	3	8	1	1	17
Emancipation	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Custody Transfer	0	2	0	1	0	0	3
Death of Child	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
<b>Total*</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>708</b>

\*Demographic data had not been entered into CHRIS for one child.

The most prevalent reason children left foster care during the quarter was for reunification (57%). The second most prevalent reason a child left care was for relative custody (26%), followed by adoption (9%). National data indicated the three most prevalent reasons children left care were reunification (57%), adoption (18%) and relative care (10 %) <sup>12</sup>.

**Chart 22: Most Prevalent Reasons Children Left Care**



<sup>12</sup> Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) data submitted for children in foster care between 10/01/2000 and 9/30/2001 as of March 2003.

### ***Permanency Goals of Children in Foster Care***

The Division has two primary goals for children in foster care: that they are safe and that they are placed in a permanent home. The second of these concerns is expressed by setting a permanency goal for each child in foster care. For children in care at the end of the third quarter, more children had the goal of returning home than any other goal. National data reveal very similar figures to those shown here<sup>13</sup>.

**Table 12: Permanency Goals of Children in Foster Care  
2nd Quarter SFY 2004 – 3rd Quarter SFY 2004**

	2nd Quarter		3rd Quarter		National
<b>Return Home</b>	1,347	44%	1,405	43%	44%
<b>Adoption</b>	772	25%	790	24%	22%
<b>Independence</b>	533	17%	532	16%	n/a
<b>Remain at Home</b>	119	4%	185	6%	n/a
<b>Relative Care</b>	94	3%	97	3%	5%
<b>Guardianship</b>	16	.5%	10	.3%	3%
<b>Emancipation</b>	1	.03%	0	0%	6%
<b>Long Term Care</b>	0	0%	0	0%	8%
<b>Not Yet Established</b>	171	6%	238	7%	11%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>3,053</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3,257</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Sum of individual percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

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<sup>13</sup> Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and reporting System (AFCARS) data submitted for the FY 2001 (10/01/00 to 9/30/01) as of March 2003.

### ***Length of Stay of Children in Foster Care***

For the 3,954 children in care during the quarter, 54 percent had been in care less than one year. Comparison to national data indicates that children in Arkansas' foster care system stay in care a decidedly shorter amount of time<sup>14</sup>.

**Table 13a: Length of Stay of Children in Foster Care  
3rd Quarter SFY 2004**

	Number	Percentage	National
<b>Less than 30 days</b>	550	14%	4%
<b>30-90 Days</b>	460	12%	17%
<b>3-6 Months</b>	455	12%	
<b>6-12 Months</b>	672	17%	15%
<b>12-24 Months</b>	764	19%	20%
<b>24-36 Months</b>	466	12%	12%
<b>36+ Months</b>	587	15%	32%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>3,954</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Sum of individual percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

**Table 13b: Length of Stay of Children in Relative Care  
3rd Quarter SFY 2004**

	Number	Percentage*
<b>Less than 30 days</b>	3	4%
<b>30-90 Days</b>	3	4%
<b>3-6 Months</b>	12	14%
<b>6-12 Months</b>	13	15%
<b>12-24 Months</b>	15	17%
<b>24-36 Months</b>	24	28%
<b>36+ Months</b>	16	19%
<b>Total</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Sum of individual percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

**Table 13c: Length of Stay of Children in Foster Care (Excluding Relative Care)  
3rd Quarter SFY 2004**

	Number	Percentage
<b>Less than 30 days</b>	547	14%
<b>30-90 Days</b>	457	12%
<b>3-6 Months</b>	443	12%
<b>6-12 Months</b>	659	17%
<b>12-24 Months</b>	749	19%
<b>24-36 Months</b>	442	11%
<b>36+ Months</b>	571	15%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,868</b>	<b>100%</b>

<sup>14</sup> Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and reporting System (AFCARS) data submitted for the FY 2001 (10/01/00 to 9/30/01) as of March 2003.



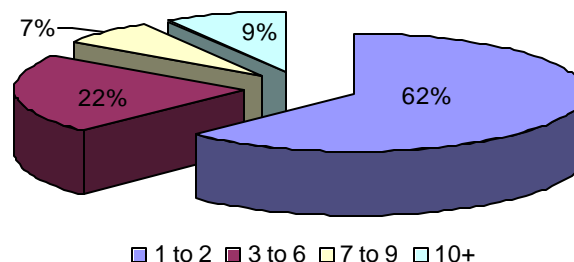
### ***Number of Placements of Children in Foster Care***

For the third quarter of SFY 2004, 62 percent of the children in care at the end of the quarter had experienced fewer than three placements, a six percentage-point decrease from the previous quarter (68%).

**Table 14: Number of Placements of Children in Foster Care  
2nd Quarter SFY 2004 – 3rd Quarter SFY 2004**

	2nd Quarter		3rd Quarter	
<b>1-2 Placements</b>	2,073	68%	2,027	62%
<b>3-6 Placements</b>	679	22%	730	22%
<b>7-9 Placements</b>	154	5%	222	7%
<b>10+ Placements</b>	147	5%	278	9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,053</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3,257</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Chart 23: Number of Placements for Children in Care at the End of the Quarter**



### Characteristics of Children who Experienced Two or More Placements

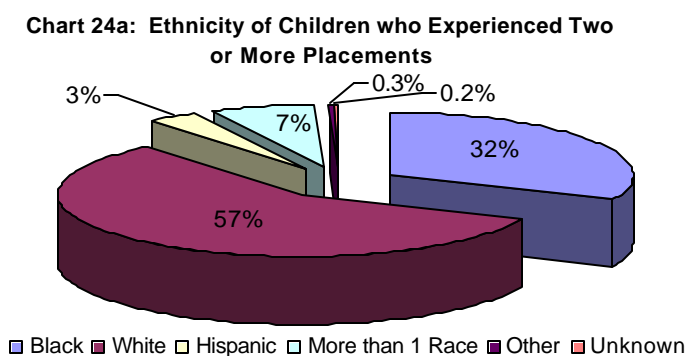
There were 3,257 children in care at the end of the quarter. Of those, 1,658 children experienced two or more placements while in foster care.

**Table 15: Characteristics of Children who Experienced Two or More Placements  
3rd Quarter SFY 2004**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	His-panic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	14	9	0	0	0	2	2	27
	Male	22	7	0	0	0	3	3	35
2 to 5	Female	74	23	0	0	0	11	6	114
	Male	77	30	0	0	0	9	7	123
6 to 11	Female	106	45	0	0	0	3	21	175
	Male	139	70	0	0	0	8	14	231
12 to 15	Female	134	81	0	1	0	5	25	246
	Male	149	100	0	0	0	5	9	263
16 to 18	Female	126	82	0	3	0	5	14	230
	Male	102	65	1	0	0	5	14	187
18+	Female	3	4	0	0	0	1	0	8
	Male	5	11	0	0	0	0	0	16
<b>Total</b>		<b>951</b>	<b>527</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>1,655</b>

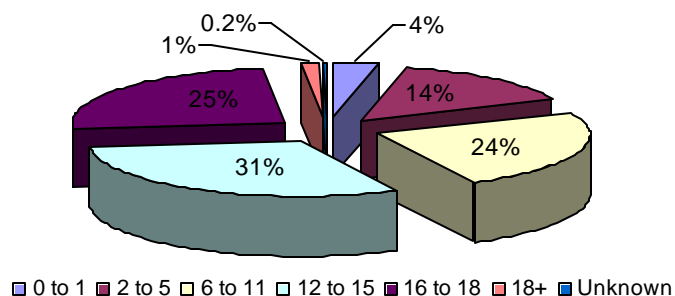
\*Demographic data had not been entered into CHRIS for three children.

Of the 1,658 children who experienced two or more placements, 57 percent were white and 32 percent were black.



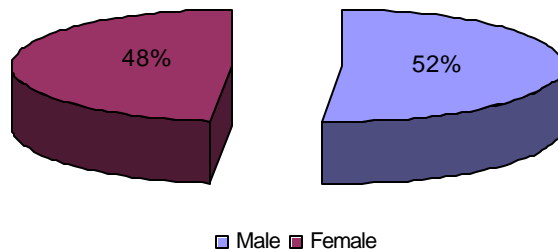
The largest group of children who experienced two or more placements was children between the ages of 12 and 15.

**Chart 24b: Ages of Children who Experienced Two or More Placements**



There were more male children than female children who experienced two or more placements.

**Chart 24c: Gender of Children who Experienced Two or More Placements**



### Current Placement of Children in Foster Care

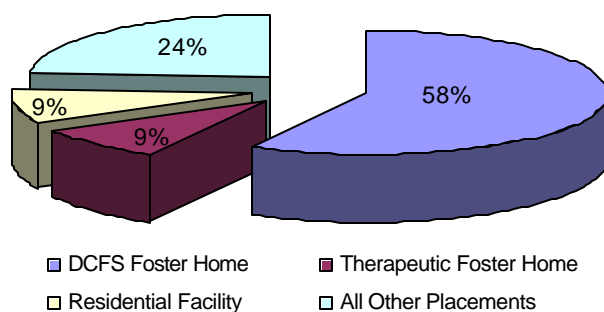
More foster children were placed in DCFS foster homes (58%) at the end of the third quarter than in any other type of foster care placement.

**Table 16: Current Placement of Children in Foster Care at the End of the Quarter**

Placement	Age						Total
	0 to 1	2 to 5	6 to 11	12 to 15	16 to 18	Over 18	
DCFS Foster Home	273	557	479	347	196	51	1,903
Relative Care	5	28	38	28	2	0	101
Therapeutic Foster Home	0	34	112	78	47	9	280
Specialized Community Home	1	7	13	37	35	19	112
Pre-Adoptive Home	19	41	53	21	4	1	139
Emergency Shelter	5	6	25	38	23	0	97
Residential Facility	3	10	47	133	98	5	296
Youth Services	0	0	0	8	11	1	20
Runaway	1	1	0	15	39	2	58
Trial Home Visit	10	16	24	11	12	0	73
Hospital/Medical	0	0	4	22	14	1	41
Community Service Organization	0	0	0	1	1	1	3
Sexual Offender Treatment	0	0	0	9	4	2	15
Detention	0	0	0	6	4	1	11
Independent Living	0	0	0	0	2	19	21
Medical Provider	0	0	1	3	1	0	5
Mental Health Provider	0	0	5	9	8	1	23
Hospital	1	0	1	1	0	0	3
Acute Psych. Hospital	0	1	8	16	7	0	32
Unknown*	4	5	3	7	5	0	24
<b>Total</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>706</b>	<b>813</b>	<b>790</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>3,257</b>

\*Unknown due to data entry after report completion.

**Chart 25: Current Placement of Children in Foster Care**



### Characteristics of Children on Runaway Status at the End of the Year

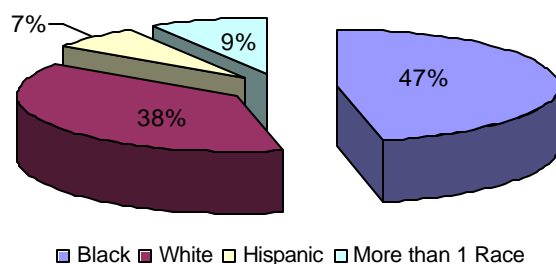
For the third quarter, there were 58 children on runaway status at the end of the quarter. The following table outlines the characteristics of those 58 children.

**Table 17: Characteristics of Children on Runaway Status at the End of the Year  
3rd Quarter SFY 2004**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2 to 5	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
6 to 11	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12 to 15	Female	3	6	0	0	0	1	3	13
	Male	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
16 to 18	Female	11	11	0	0	0	2	1	25
	Male	5	9	0	0	0	1	1	16
<b>Total</b>		<b>22</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>58</b>

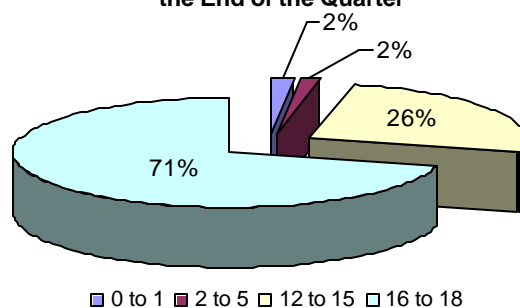
Of the children on runaway status at the end of the quarter, 38 percent were white and 47 percent were black. These percentages varied from the previous quarter in which 50 percent were white and 42 percent were black.

**Chart 26a: Ethnicity of Children on Runaway Status  
at the End of the Quarter**



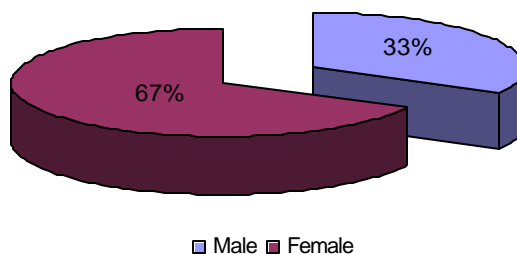
Seventy-one percent of the children who were on runaway status at the end of the quarter were between the ages of 16 and 18.

**Chart 26b: Ages of Children on Runaway Status at the End of the Quarter**



There were more female children (67%) than male children (33%) who were on runaway status at the end of the quarter.

**Chart 26c: Gender of Children on Runaway Status at the End of the Quarter**



### Characteristics of Children in Relative Care

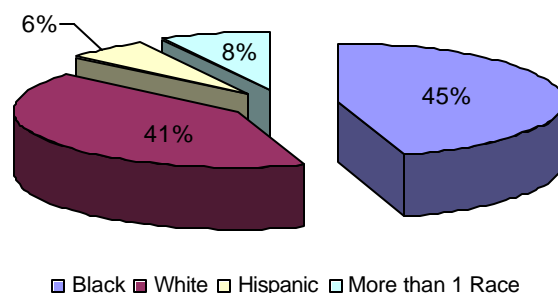
For the third quarter, there were 86 children in relative care. The following table outlines the children who were in relative care.

**Table 18: Characteristics of Children in Relative Care  
3rd Quarter SFY 2004**

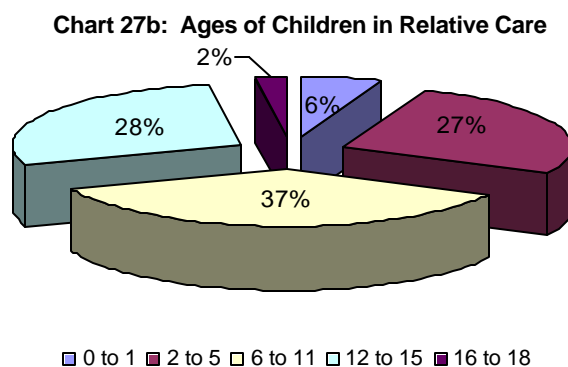
Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	3
	Male	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
2 to 5	Female	4	6	0	0	0	4	0	14
	Male	3	6	0	0	0	0	0	9
6 to 11	Female	6	4	0	0	0	0	3	13
	Male	10	8	0	0	0	0	1	19
12 to 15	Female	4	7	0	0	0	0	1	12
	Male	5	5	0	0	0	0	2	12
16 to 18	Female	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>35</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>86</b>

Black children represented the highest percentage of children (45%) in relative care for the third quarter. During the previous quarter, white children represented the largest group of children in relative care. Of the children in relative care last quarter, 34 percent were black and 43 percent were white.

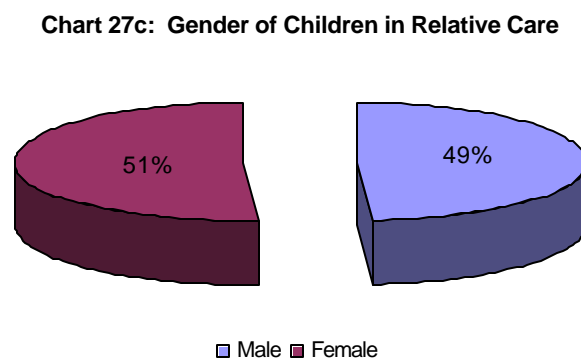
**Chart 27a: Ethnicity of Children in Relative Care**



Children between the ages of 6 and 11 represented the largest age group of children in relative care, followed by children between the ages of 12 and 15.



Of the 86 children who were in relative care during the quarter, 51 percent were female and 49 percent were male.





**Part III: Description of Population and Services**  
**Section III: Adoption**

***Characteristics of Children with the Permanency Goal of Adoption during the Quarter***

There were 848 children with the permanency goal of adoption during the quarter. The table below outlines the characteristics of children with the permanency goal of adoption.

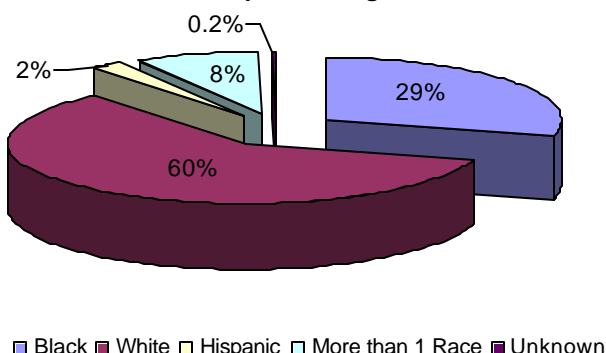
**Table 19: Characteristics of Children with the Permanency Goal of Adoption during the Quarter  
3rd Quarter SFY 2004**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	12	8	0	0	0	0	5	25
	Male	17	7	0	0	0	2	0	26
2 to 5	Female	68	29	0	0	0	5	1	103
	Male	64	36	0	0	0	3	9	112
6 to 11	Female	85	37	0	0	0	1	22	145
	Male	105	51	0	0	0	3	15	174
12 to 15	Female	57	28	0	0	0	2	8	95
	Male	70	40	0	0	0	2	11	123
16 to 18	Female	17	6	0	0	0	0	0	23
	Male	14	5	0	0	0	0	1	20
<b>Total*</b>		<b>509</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>846</b>

\*Demographic data had not been entered into CHRIS for two children.

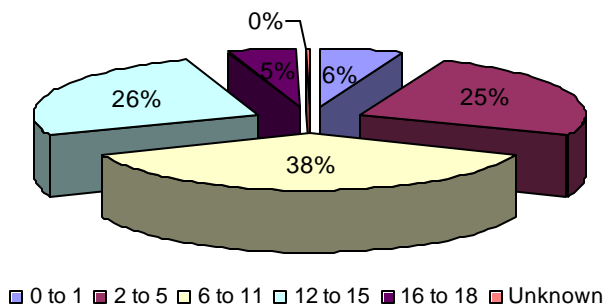
Of the 848 children whose permanency goal was adoption during the quarter, 60 percent were white, 29 percent were black and 2 percent were hispanic. This was similar to the previous quarter.

**Chart 28a: Ethnicity of Children with Permanency Goal of Adoption during the Quarter**



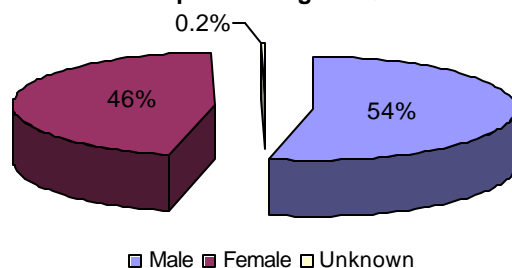
Children between the ages of 6 and 11 represented the largest group of children with a permanency goal of adoption.

**Chart 28b: Ages of Children with Permanency Goal of Adoption during the Quarter**



Of the 848 children whose permanency goal was adoption, 54 percent of the children were male and 46 percent were female.

**Chart 28c: Gender of Children with Permanency Goal of Adoption during the Quarter**



### ***Characteristics of Children with the Permanency Goal of Adoption at the End of the Quarter***

There were 789 children whose permanency goal at the end of the quarter was adoption. The table below outlines the characteristics of those children.

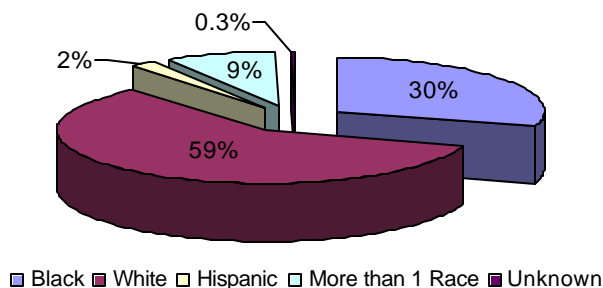
**Table 20: Characteristics of Children with the Permanency Goal of Adoption at the End of the Quarter  
3rd Quarter SFY 2004**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	8	7	0	0	0	0	4	19
	Male	17	6	0	0	0	2	0	25
2 to 5	Female	60	29	0	0	0	4	1	94
	Male	54	33	0	0	0	2	9	98
6 to 11	Female	82	35	0	0	0	1	20	138
	Male	99	51	0	0	0	2	15	167
12 to 15	Female	54	25	0	0	0	2	8	89
	Male	66	39	0	0	0	2	11	118
16 to 18	Female	17	6	0	0	0	0	0	23
	Male	11	4	0	0	0	0	1	16
<b>Total*</b>		<b>468</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>787</b>

\*Demographic data had not been entered into CHRIS for two children.

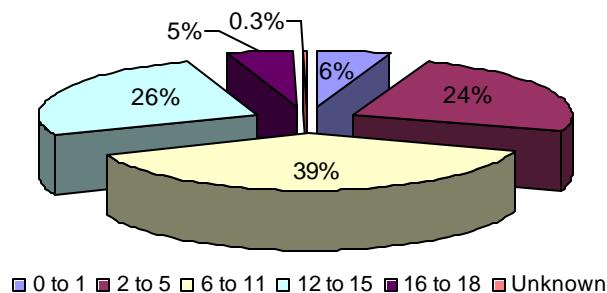
There were 789 children whose permanency goal was adoption at the end of the quarter. Of those, 59 percent were white, 30 percent were black and 9 percent were of more than one ethnicity. These percentages were similar to those children whose permanency goal was adoption during the quarter.

**Chart 29a: Ethnicity of Children with Permanency Goal of Adoption at the End of the Quarter**



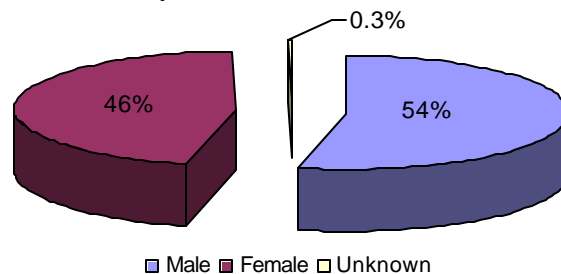
Children between the ages of 6 and 11 continued to represent the largest age group of children and children between the ages of 12 and 15 represented the second largest group of children whose permanency goal was adoption at the end of the quarter.

**Chart 29b: Ages of Children with Permanency Goal of Adoption at the End of the Quarter**



There were more male children (54%) than female children (46%) with the permanency goal of adoption at the end of the third quarter.

**Chart 29c: Gender of Children with Permanency Goal of Adoption at the End of the Quarter**



### ***Characteristics of Children whose Parents had Parental Rights Terminated during the Quarter***

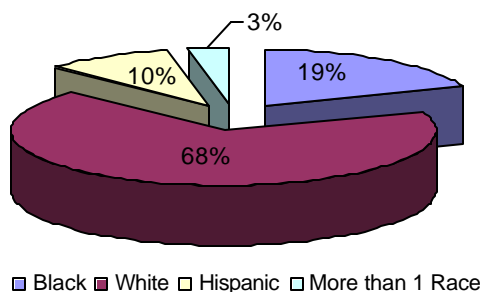
There were 63 children whose parents had their parental rights terminated during the third quarter. The table below outlines the characteristics of those children.

**Table 21: Characteristics of Children whose Parents have had Parental Rights Terminated during the Quarter  
3rd Quarter SFY 2004**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
	Male	4	1	0	0	0	1	0	6
2 to 5	Female	14	2	0	0	0	3	2	21
	Male	7	5	0	0	0	0	0	12
6 to 11	Female	4	1	0	0	0	1	0	6
	Male	7	1	0	0	0	0	0	8
12 to 15	Female	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	4
	Male	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
16 to 18	Female	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>43</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>63</b>

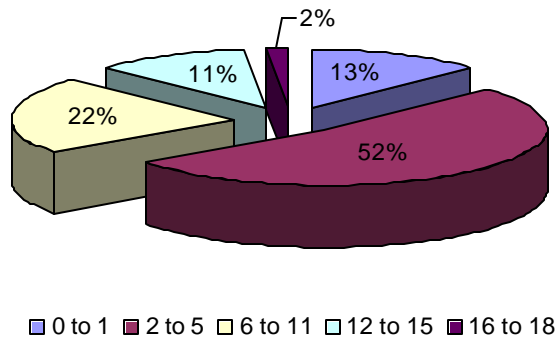
There were 68 percent of the children whose parents had their parental rights terminated during the quarter who were white, while 19 percent of the children were black.

**Chart 30a: Ethnicity of Children whose Parents have had Parental Rights Terminated**



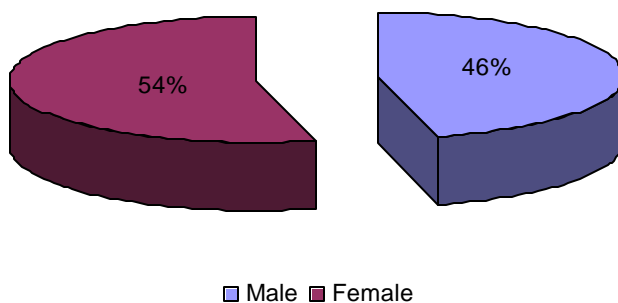
Children between the ages of two and five represented the largest group of children whose parents had their parental rights terminated during the quarter.

**Chart 30b: Ages of Children whose Parents have had Parental Rights Terminated**



There were more female children than male children whose parents had their parental rights terminated during the quarter. This represented a change from the previous quarter where the majority of the children were male (54%).

**Chart 30c: Gender of Children whose Parents have had Parental Rights Terminated**



### ***Characteristics of Children Available for Adoption at the End of the Quarter***

There were 524 children available for adoption at the end of the third quarter. Demographic information for children available for adoption, shown in the table below, is very similar to previous reports.

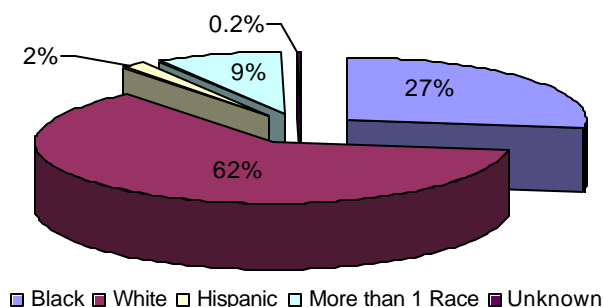
**Table 22: Characteristics of Children Available for Adoption at the End of the Quarter  
3rd Quarter SFY 2004**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	5	2	0	0	0	0	2	9
	Male	6	4	0	0	0	0	0	10
2 to 5	Female	32	15	0	0	0	2	1	50
	Male	33	24	0	0	0	1	7	65
6 to 11	Female	52	24	0	0	0	1	12	89
	Male	73	27	0	0	0	1	9	110
12 to 15	Female	45	17	0	0	0	2	6	70
	Male	54	23	0	0	0	1	8	86
16 to 18	Female	15	4	0	0	0	0	0	19
	Male	11	3	0	0	0	0	1	15
<b>Total*</b>		<b>326</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>523</b>

\*Demographic data had not been entered into CHRIS for one child.

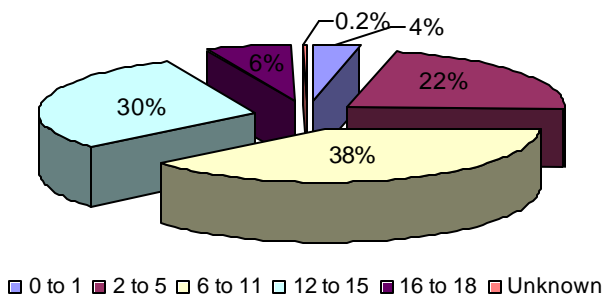
Of the children available for adoption, 62 percent were white and 27 percent were black.

**Chart 31a: Ethnicity of Children Available for Adoption  
at the End of the Quarter**



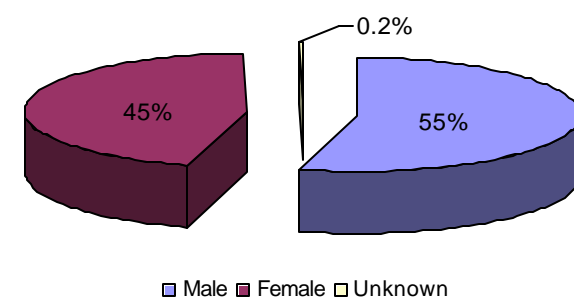
There were more children between the ages of 6 and 11 available for adoption at the end of the quarter than any other age group.

**Chart 31b: Ages of Children Available for Adoption at the End of the Quarter**



There were more male children available for adoption than female children at the end of the quarter; 55 percent of the children were male and 45 percent of the children were female.

**Chart 31c: Gender of Children Available for Adoption at the End of the Quarter**





### ***Current Placement of Children Available for Adoption***

More children available for adoption at the end of the third quarter were placed in DCFS foster homes (39%) than in any other type of placement, followed by adoptive homes. The results are similar to the previous quarter.

**Table 23: Current Placement of Children Available for Adoption  
3rd Quarter SFY 2004**

Placement	Number of Children	Percentage
DCFS Foster Home	205	39%
Pre-Adoptive Home	72	14%
Pre-Adoptive Home (Relative)	3	.6%
Pre-Adoptive Home (Foster Parent)	59	11%
Therapeutic Foster Home	77	15%
Relative Care	25	5%
Specialized Community Home	27	5%
Residential Facility	33	6%
Hospital/Medical	15	3%
Emergency Shelter	2	.4%
Youth Services	3	.6%
Sexual Offender Treatment	2	.4%
Runaway	1	.2%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>524</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*The sum of individual percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

### Characteristics of Children in a Pre-adoptive Placement

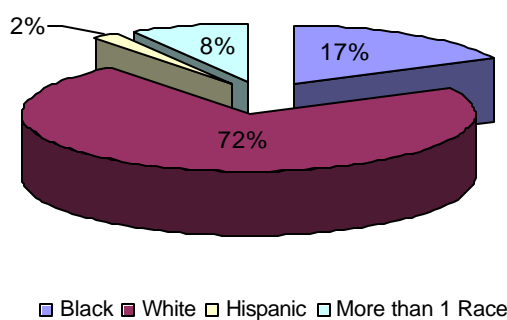
There were 183 children in pre-adoptive homes during the third quarter. This includes children who could have entered a pre-adoptive home during a previous quarter as well as children who were placed in pre-adoptive homes during the current quarter.

**Table 24: Characteristics of Children in a Pre-adoptive Placement  
3rd Quarter SFY 2004**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	5	1	0	0	0	0	2	8
	Male	5	3	0	0	0	0	0	8
2 to 5	Female	15	5	0	0	0	1	1	22
	Male	24	8	0	0	0	1	4	37
6 to 11	Female	20	1	0	0	0	0	4	25
	Male	30	5	0	0	0	1	2	38
12 to 15	Female	14	4	0	0	0	1	1	20
	Male	14	4	0	0	0	0	1	19
16 to 18	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
<b>Total</b>		<b>132</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>183</b>

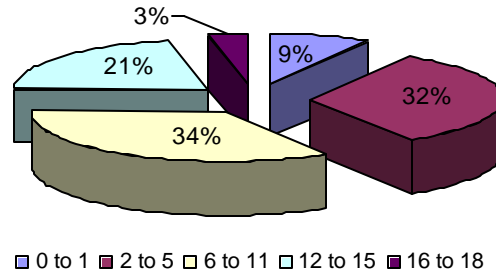
Of the 183 children in a pre-adoptive home during the quarter, 72 percent were white, 17 percent were black and 2 percent was hispanic.

**Chart 32a: Ethnicity of Children Placed in Pre-adoptive Homes during the Quarter**



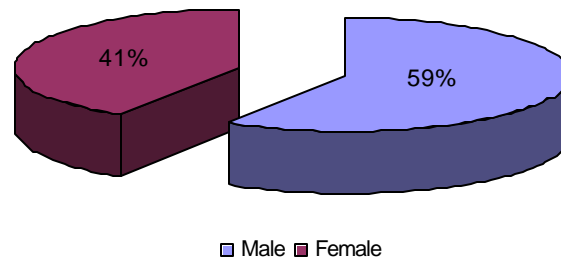
The largest group of children who were placed in pre-adoptive homes was between the ages of 6 and 11. The smallest percentage of children placed in pre-adoptive placements was children who were between the ages of 16 and 18.

**32b: Ages of Children Placed in Pre-adoptive Homes during the Quarter**



Of the 183 children placed in pre-adoptive homes during the quarter, 59 percent were male and 41 percent female.

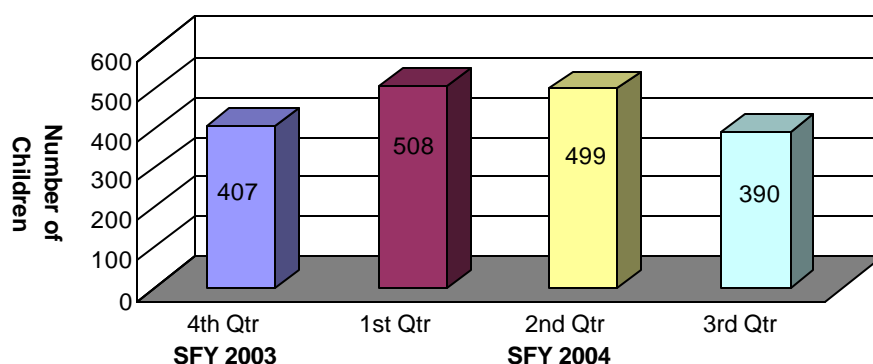
**32c: Gender of Children Placed in Pre-adoptive Homes during the Quarter**



***Children not Placed in an Adoptive Home whose Parents have had Parental Rights Terminated***

There were 390 children whose parental rights were terminated who were not placed in an adoptive home, a decrease from the previous quarter (499). This number was derived by subtracting the number of children placed in adoptive homes at the end of the quarter (134) from the number of children available for adoption at the end of the quarter (524).

**Chart 33: Children not Placed in an Adoptive Home whose Parents have had Parental Rights Terminated**



### ***Children with Special Needs***

There were 98 children with special needs who were in a pre-adoptive placement during the third quarter<sup>15</sup>. Children with special needs are defined as children who have severe medical or psychological needs that require ongoing treatment. Children at high risk for the development of serious physical, mental or emotional condition may be considered special needs if documentation is provided by a medical professional specializing in the area of the condition for which the child is considered at risk. Other children may be considered special needs if they are a Caucasian child over the age of nine, an African American child who is two years old or older or a child who is a member of a sibling group of three or more that is being placed together.

**Table 25: Children with Special Needs who were Placed in Adoptive Homes  
3rd Quarter SFY 2004**

Special Need Condition	Number of Children
Race	57
Age	95
Member of sibling group	28

### ***Characteristics of Children with Finalized Adoption***

There were 65 children whose adoptions were finalized during the quarter. The following table outlines the characteristics of those children.

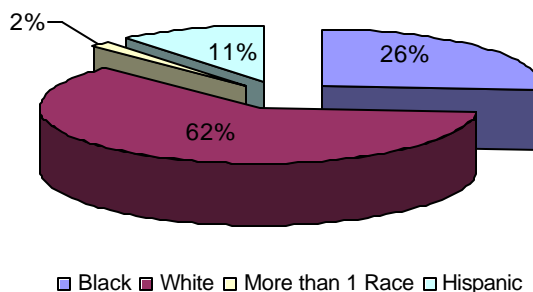
**Table 26: Characteristics of Children with Finalized Adoptions  
3rd Quarter SFY 2004**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	His-panic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	3
	Male	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
2 to 5	Female	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	5
	Male	11	5	0	0	0	2	0	18
6 to 11	Female	6	4	0	0	0	0	1	11
	Male	9	3	0	0	0	1	0	13
12 to 15	Female	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	6
	Male	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	5
16 to 18	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>40</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>65</b>

<sup>15</sup> This number does not take into account children with severe medical and psychological needs because this data is not available in CHRIS (AR Children's Reporting and Information System). As enhancements are made to the data system to capture this information, it will be provided in future reports.

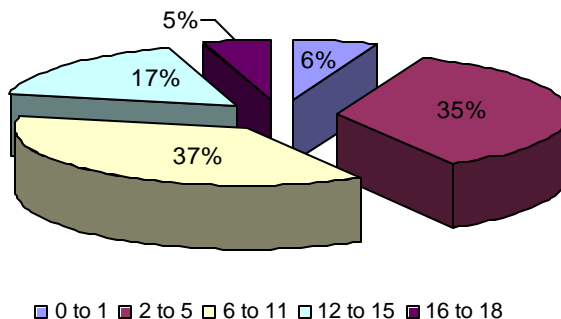
There were 65 children whose adoptions were finalized during the third quarter. Of those, 62 percent were white and 26 percent were black.

**Chart 34a: Ethnicity of Children with Finalized Adoptions**



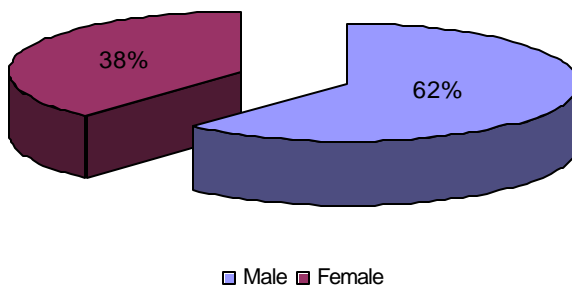
Children between the ages of 6 and 11 represented the largest group of children whose adoptions were finalized during the quarter.

**Chart 34b: Ages of Children with Finalized Adoptions**



There were more male children (62%) whose adoptions were finalized during the quarter than female children (38%).

**Chart 34c: Gender of Children with Finalized Adoptions**



### Subsidized Adoptions

There were 60 children who began receiving adoption subsidies during the third quarter. Of those, 49 children received federally funded subsidies, while 11 received state funded subsidies.

### Characteristics of Children who Received Adoption Subsidies

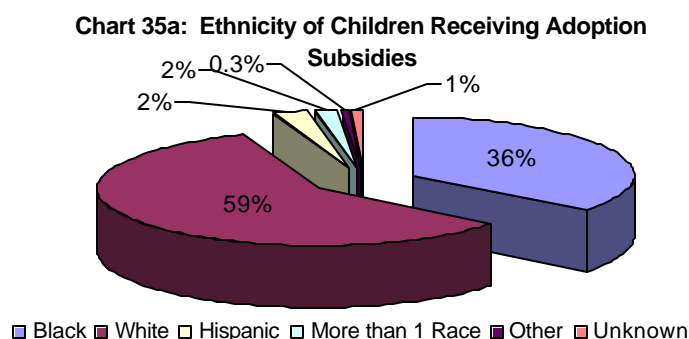
There were 2,207 children receiving adoption subsidies during the third quarter. The following table outlines the demographics of those children.

**Table 27: Characteristics of Children Receiving Adoption Subsidies  
3rd Quarter SFY 2004**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	3
	Male	5	2	0	0	0	0	4	11
2 to 5	Female	100	54	0	0	0	8	13	175
	Male	108	51	0	0	0	10	7	176
6 to 11	Female	240	173	2	1	0	14	10	440
	Male	283	165	0	1	0	8	6	463
12 to 15	Female	186	126	1	1	0	6	0	320
	Male	195	125	0	0	0	7	0	327
16 to 18	Female	90	43	0	0	0	2	1	136
	Male	61	37	1	0	0	0	0	99
18+	Female	13	2	0	0	0	0	0	15
	Male	17	4	0	0	0	0	0	21
<b>Total*</b>		<b>1,298</b>	<b>784</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>2,186</b>

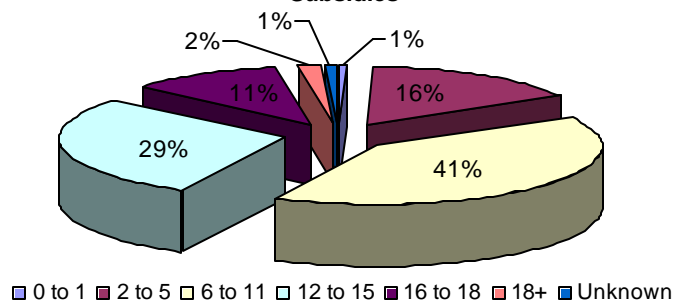
\*Demographic data had not been entered into CHRIS for 21 children.

Fifty-nine percent of the children receiving adoption subsidies were white, while 36 percent were black.



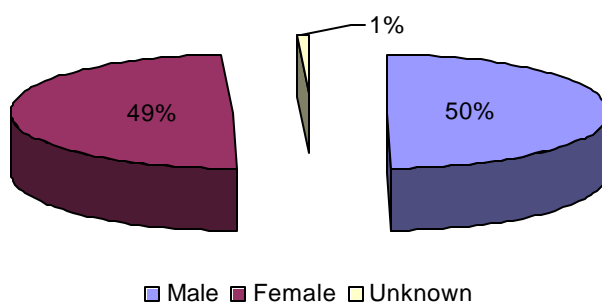
The majority of the children receiving adoption subsidies during the quarter were between the ages of 6 and 11.

**Chart 35b: Ages of Children Receiving Adoption Subsidies**



Of the children receiving adoption subsidies, 50 percent were male and 49 percent were female.

**Chart 35c: Gender of Children Receiving Adoption Subsidies**



### ***Non-Foster Adoptive Homes***

There were 180 adoptive homes available at the beginning of the quarter and 196 adoptive homes available at the end of the third quarter.

**Table 28: Non-Foster Adoptive Homes  
3rd Quarter SFY 2004**

Homes available for children at beginning of quarter	180
Newly available homes	36
Homes that had children placed during the quarter	20
Home that experienced a disruption	2
Homes that closed without a placement	2
Homes available at the end of the quarter	196